



A

High-class Weekly Journal

OF

SPORTS, ART, LITERATURE,
MUSIC, AND THE DRAMA;

CONTAINING

NUMEROUS ENGRAVINGS,

FROM DRAWINGS BY WELL-KNOWN ARTISTS OF

Sporting and Dramatic Subjects.

VOLUME I.

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lessons of "maudlin morality" to profess, to teach; no idols of our own making to put forward as our exemplars:

"Nullius addicti jurare in verba magistri."

We trust always to be found on the side of Art, whether its exemplar be the humblest supernumerary or the most distinguished "star." We do not even believe, with the colossus of stage contrivances who bestrides the Atlantic, that "Shakspeare spells bankruptcy;" it is rather our conviction that there is a greater demand for good art than at any previous period of the history of the stage, and therein lies our one great article of faith in the broad partially-unoccupied field which is now before us.

And so, *secundo numine* we trust, do we heave the "anchor of our hope," and float gently downwards toward the sea. This is our first voyage as pilots, but we have long and seasoned experience of navigation, and knowledge earned in our 'prentice days gives us good heart now to stand confidently by the helm. Not that we underrate the responsibility attaching to us, nor the dangers to which older and abler hands have been fated to succumb. We know that no trouble or expense has been spared in the construction or fittings of our craft; that her crew are A 1—ready and willing; and those in command fully equal to controlling and directing their powers. Our calm way to the Ocean is but short, and trim and taut must our good ship be to bow to the first wave and sheer the first briny blast. We know the fickleness of that *popularis aura* on which so much of our "making way" must depend; nor must we trust too implicitly in the constancy of that current of public opinion which sets in opposite directions at a moment's notice. We must not mind a few hard blows and buffets at first, which may knock some of the paint off our hull, or carry away the tackle we most relied upon. Patiently must we submit, sitting down to renovate and splice, polish and strengthen, until we come out of our trials more cheery and stouter-hearted than before, content to follow the course marked out on our chart with courage "equal to either fortune." Some little time may elapse before we get our "sea legs" once more, and there may be plenty of chaff from all sorts of people at our early efforts. But this we must bear good-humouredly, picking out therefrom grains of wheat thrown out at random, and storing them for after use, not forgetting the old maxim—*Fas est et ab hoste doceri*. But to those who may be inclined to transgress the acknowledged limits of well-meant banter, we may hint that we have a gun or two stored snugly away, which have done us good service before in cases of sudden attack.

Whatever may befall our venture, we do not at any rate sail under piratical colours, nor embark in a reckless privateering expedition, nor endeavour to take wind out of the sails of any other craft we fall in company with along the ocean highway. There at least is room for all, and we have but to shape our course according to the rule of the road at sea, keeping a sharp look-out ahead, and our lights burning. We interfere with no existing interests, and clash with no undertaking of earlier birth than our own; but we feel that our way across the deep is, as yet, unexplored and unknown, and that our pains for rendering it safe and profitable must be commensurate with the object we have taken in hand. And we have the consolation of feeling that no port is closed to fair and legitimate trading; that if we achieve success it will not be at the expense of a baffled opponent; that if we fail, it will be by having aimed too high, and altogether having mistaken the public taste for such wares as we place before them. We have many old friends to wish us God Speed in our new venture, but we are not so over-sanguine as to reckon upon making a host of new ones, and must rather depend upon the staunchness of our craft at first than her powers of speed when under full sail. Let us feel our way slowly, but surely; not crowding on all canvas with ill-judged haste, but sailing "sweetly and easily" until confidence has been attained, and each beam and spar thoroughly tested. Then may ours be the boast that—

"Non tangenda ratis transiliet vada,"

and a prosperous voyage crown the labour and toil of an anxious preparation.

MISS WALLIS.

In selecting Miss Wallis for the first portrait in our gallery of distinguished actors and actresses, which it is intended shall be one of the leading features in this journal, it is possible that on account of her extreme youth and the little time she has been before the public, we may not please everybody; but, nevertheless, we have some reason to know that not only will our choice have the approval of nine out of ten of the theatrical profession, but of the public generally. Born at Islington on the 17th of August, 1854, Miss Wallis had the misfortune to lose her father when only three years old; but under the tender care of a fondly-attached and clever mother, several of whose family are engaged in literary pursuits, she hardly felt her loss, while, as she grew up, her uncles took care that her education should be attended to carefully. Miss Wallis, when little more than five years old, showed a marked predilection for the stage, which she evinced by her extraordinary retention of everything she saw or heard when she occasionally accompanied her mother to witness any of the new theatrical

performances, to which, on account of her brother's connection with the literary world, she had generally a free *entrée*. How deeply these performances sank into her mind was shown on every occasion her mother had a juvenile party, by her making her little companions, as much to their amusement as delight, perform some play she had seen, when she assumed the post of manager as well as actress. The first school she was placed at was Mrs. Smythe's, Ellesmere College, South Penge, where she remained a year, on the expiration of which her mother took her to Paris to learn the French language; and in that gay capital she remained for a twelvemonth. On her return home at the age of thirteen she induced the uncle, who alone of all her family believed in her latent talent, to take her to a gentleman who prepared parties for the stage, who expressed his opinion that from her voice and appearance she was likely to succeed, but advised her, on account of her youth, to go back to school for a year or two. This advice she followed, and was placed by her mother at Madame Sumond's well-known seminary, Brookfield Villa, Highgate Rise, nearly opposite the Baroness Burdett Coutts's, where she finished her education at the age of sixteen. At Madame Sumond's, as at most other schools, plays were occasionally acted, and in these amusements, as might be expected, Miss Wallis took a leading part. It happened, curiously enough, that the Christmas before her leaving Brookfield, the act from *Antony and Cleopatra*, in which Cleopatra immolates herself, was selected for representation, and by the unanimous voice of her school companions, Miss Wallis was chosen to represent the queen, which she did in such a surprising style of excellence as to draw down the applause of her lady audience—for gentlemen were not permitted an *entrée* to these performances. At the breakfast table next morning, Madame Sumond, in complimenting the young ladies who took part in the performance, said "Young ladies, I congratulate you on the success of last night's performance, but"—fixing her eyes on Miss Wallis—"I greatly fear that there is one young lady among you who will some day take to the 'boards,' a very remarkable prediction, for owing to her family strongly objecting to her adopting the stage for a profession, she had given up all idea of it. On leaving Madame Sumond's she went with her mother to reside at Clapham, but the place of worship they usually attended was Christ Church, Brixton, where "penny readings" were got up for the benefit of the schools. Miss Wallis, being an accomplished musician, was asked to play the piano, but suggested instead to give a 'reading,' which she did, and selecting the 'May Queen,' read it with a success that created quite a *furor*. On a subsequent occasion she read Tennyson's 'Dora,' which created still greater enthusiasm, there not being room for more than half the numbers that came to hear her; and the local papers, in commenting on the performance, said "Miss Wallis read it with such exquisite taste, that at its conclusion she received quite an ovation." This success renewed within her all the latent desire for the stage, and she induced her uncle to take her to Mr. Ryder, to judge if she really possessed the necessary talent. Mr. Ryder was then stage manager of the Queen's Theatre, Long Acre, and there he took her privately on the stage, when she was not a little startled at the appearance of the house, draped as it was in white. Mr. Ryder inquired what part she was prepared to rehearse, and on Miss Wallis replying that she would recite the soliloquy of Juliet in her chamber, expressed no little astonishment at a mere novice like her choosing such an arduous part. She then went through the scene in a manner that at once elicited the expression of his belief that she would make an accomplished actress, and that there was a brilliant future before her. Miss Wallis then commenced a regular course of lessons with Mr. Ryder, lasting over eight months, at the end of which she had an engagement offered her at the Queen's Theatre, to play 'Marguerite' in Sir Charles Young's play of *Montcalm*. Before Mr. Ryder would accept this engagement for her, he determined to see his pupil 'face an audience,' and for that purpose introduced her to the manager of the Standard Theatre, where he was about to take his benefit, the piece selected being *Claude Melnotte*, in which Miss Wallis was to play 'Pauline' to Mr. Cresswell's 'Claude.' The latter gentleman at first objected playing with a novice, but the first rehearsal relieved him of all anxiety in respect to her ability to enact the part, and on the 4th of September, 1872, Miss Wallis made her first appearance on any stage with an *éclat* seldom attending a first performance, and which is thus spoken of in the papers of the day.

The *Court Circular* says of this performance: "she is gifted with most unmistakeable power, and what is even rarer for a novice, she knows how to regulate it. Still in the first blush of youth, and liberally gifted with charms of face, figure, voice, and intelligence, the young aspirant has only to study to take a high position on the stage." The *John Bull* remarks: "We congratulate Mr. Ryder on the success of his pupil, the fair *débutante* on the impression her first appearance has made, and the stage generally on the acquisition of a lady who bids fair to take a very high position in the calling she has adopted."

Miss Wallis then played twice at Margate, on the first occasion as 'Mariana' in *The Wife*, and on the second as 'Pauline' in *The Lady of Lyons*. So great was her success on these occasions that on the conclusion of *The Lady of Lyons*, Mr. Ryder brought her before the curtain, and openly predicted for Miss Wallis a brilliant future.

The brilliant success that thus attended her *début* enabled her to accept the engagement offered her by the management of the Queen's Theatre, where she made her first appearance on the 1st of October, 1872, in the character of Marguerite in Sir Charles Young's play of *Montcalm*, in which her acting was received with marked applause throughout, and is thus noticed by the *John Bull*:—"Miss Wallis, a young lady new to the London stage, made her appearance on the occasion in the part of the heir's sister, and created a very favourable impression by her graceful manner and intelligent delivery of the words of her part." The next piece Miss Wallis appeared in was Watts Phillips's play of *Amos Clarke*, which was produced at the same theatre on Saturday, October 19th, and in which she obtained complete success, as would appear from the following critique taken from the paper before quoted. "The part of the heroine

'Mildred Vaughan' is not a grateful one to play; there is not a single worked-up scene in it, whilst there is a frequent demand for unprepared intensity. Mildred's representative, Miss Wallis, shows great promise, and is capable of the expression of strong feeling, and she certainly did much where the author has taxed the actress too severely. Good, if not great things may be expected from this young lady, whose natural powers only want discretionary management to bring her assumptions within the region of the best style of art. *Amos Clarke* was well received—indeed it proved a complete success."

Miss Wallis's next appearance was in Colonel Richards's play of *Cromwell*, in which she enacted the part of 'Lady Elizabeth,' and achieved a still greater triumph, as will appear from the notice of her performance in the *Daily Telegraph*. "All possible light, colour, and beauty came out of the lines as pointed and delivered by this young and most intelligent actress. Few will forget the admirable delivery of the dying speeches of Elizabeth, the facial expression, admirably apt, wildly gazing into distance; the eyes of all were intently riveted on the actress, and spontaneous cheering was due to the actress's power!" On the withdrawal of this piece, Miss Wallis accepted an engagement at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, where her success was as great as in the metropolis, appearing in the characters of 'Marguerite,' in *Faust*, and those of 'Desdemona' and 'Juliet.' In the September following, Miss Wallis was engaged as leading actress at Drury Lane, sustaining in the most artistic style the rôle of 'Cleopatra,' her representation of which must be so fresh in the memory of the public generally, that we have no occasion to extract from the daily press the very favourable comments on her performance. On December 3rd she played 'Juliet' for the first time in London, in which her success was unequivocal, since which she has played 'Amy Robsart,' a character that exhibits her great histrionic powers in the strongest light.

The Drama.

** Owing to pressure on our space, a great portion of our Dramatic Intelligence has been necessarily held over till next week.

ALTHOUGH the attractions of the pantomimes at Covent Garden and Drury Lane have been far from exhausted, and enhanced as they have been during the last two or three weeks by the production, at the former of the melodrama of *Rip Van Winkle*, in which Mr. Charles Rice (formerly of the London boards, and now lessee of the Bradford Theatre, who has succeeded the late Mr. Augustus Harris as entrepreneur of the Christmas entertainment at Covent Garden), personated with great vigour and spirit the besotted and subsequently bewildered hero, so familiarized to the London public by the picturesque rendering of Mr. Jefferson a few years ago at the Adelphi, and at the latter by the revival of the spectacular drama of *Amy Robsart*, they must be brought to a close, the last day and evening representations taking place this afternoon and night, when the seasons terminate—both houses being required for the usual Italian Operas.—Mr. Gye confining at Covent Garden on the 31st March, and Mr. Mapleson, having been unsuccessful in his efforts to obtain a lease of the New Opera House in the Haymarket on anything like remunerative or equitable terms, again occupying Drury Lane.

The pantomime terminated last Saturday at the Princess's, where, however, the charming and refined acting of Mrs. Rousby may still be enjoyed in *Mary Stuart*, a new historical play written expressly for Mrs. Rousby by Mr. Wills, the author of *Medea*, *Charles I.*, &c., and of which a full notice appears in another part of our paper.

The programmes at the majority of the theatres continuing almost without alteration since Christmas, little more is now needed than a brief enumeration of the leading attractions at each house. At the Haymarket Mr. Gilbert's original play of *Charity* is followed by a revival of the old-fashioned melodrama of *Raymond and Agnes*. Mr. Falconer's celebrated Irish drama, *Peep o' Day*, which had such an extended run on its first production a few years ago at the Lyceum, has been revived with great success at the Adelphi, and has been supplemented during the last two or three weeks by a domestic drama, entitled *Rough and Ready*, in which the principal characters are sustained by Mr. and Mrs. Billington, for whom it was expressly written by Mr. Paul Merritt, and previously played by them in the provinces with signal success. The season here closes to-night, after which this piece will be transferred to the Surrey Theatre. Encouraged by the success of *The School for Scandal*, which had an uninterrupted run of upwards of four hundred nights at the Vaudeville, Messrs. Thorne and James have revived another old English comedy, *The Road to Ruin*, which bids fair to equal in popularity its immediate predecessor, having already reached the hundredth repetition, followed by Mr. Reece's latest burlesque *Ruy Blas* righted. The standing attraction at the Queen's has been Mr. Charles Reed's drama of *The Wandering Heir*, in which the leading character has been sustained by Mrs. John Wood, who took her benefit and made her last appearance at this theatre last night. Miss Ellen Terry is announced to return to the stage and succeed Mrs. Wood here, *The menu of the Gaiety*, as usual, constantly varies between Operetta and Ballet-farce, with Mr. Byron's new burlesque *Guy Fawkes*, while at the now permanently established Saturday afternoon performances, revivals of old comedies have been the order of the day.

A highly poetical drama, founded on a Scandinavian legend of the Baron de la Motte Fouqué, and brought out at the Court Theatre under the title of *The White Pilgrim*, now precedes the lively and popular *Wedding March*. An operatic extravaganza, or, as it is styled in the bills, a 'Folie Musicale' by Mr. H. B. Farnie, entitled *Eldorado*, replaced the same author's greatly successful burlesque of *Nemesis* at the Strand, last week, after an unprecedented run of the latter of nearly twelve months; and a new comedy for Mr. Toole appeared at the Gaiety on Monday, under the title of *Too Clever by Half*.

PROVINCIAL DRAMA.—We must apologise for the brevity of our Provincial correspondence this week, which we have had to compress within close limits owing to the pressure of more important matter.



SCENE FROM "OUGHT WE TO VISIT HER?" AT THE ROYALTY THEATRE.



MR. W. S. GILBERT.

(From a Photograph by Messrs. FRADELLE & MARSHALL.)

"OUGHT WE TO VISIT HER?"

Ought We to Visit her? the *pièce de résistance* in the present programme of the Royalty Theatre, presided over by Miss H. Hodson, is an agreeable and amusing comedy, adapted with no little skill and tact from Mrs. Edwards' novel of the same name by Mr. W. S. Gilbert, who though confining himself to the outline of the original story, has, however, substituted a *dénouement* of his own for that of Mrs. Edwards, which though disappointing to those who have read the novel, does not detract from the dramatic propriety and merits of the comedy itself, for its chief charm arises from the bright, naive and natural acting of Miss Hodson as Jane Theobald, the heroine and subject of the question raised in the title. The story is simplicity itself, and depicts first the humiliations and insults which a quondam ballet girl, now the wife of an ex-Guardsman and landed proprietor, has to endure from her husband's friends and county compeers; and then the more trying and severe trouble arising from the neglect of her husband in favour of an old flame, who had formerly jilted him, but now entangles him in a renewal of their old flirtations. Disgusted with the conventional exclusiveness and hauteur of the county folk, heart-broken at the neglect of her husband, and maddened with jealousy at his too obvious flirtation, Jane Theobald is on the point of consenting to an elopement with a man for whom she had no feeling but that of gratitude for having supported her when the other members of her family insulted her. At this critical moment her husband returns to her at the instigation of the very lady of whom she was so justly jealous, but who thus suddenly repents, restores the husband to the wronged and nearly erring wife, and craves forgiveness for her contemplated wrong. The illustration (drawn by Alfred Concanen) which is given on the opposite page, is a representation of the incident in question.

MR. W. S. GILBERT.

AMONGST the few living dramatists who have gained a reputation for originality, Mr. William Schenck Gilbert occupies a distinguished position. He is an artist in the most thorough sense of the term, as readers of the "Bab Ballads" will cordially admit. Mr. Gilbert was born in 1836, at 17, Southampton-street, Strand. His father is a gentleman of independent property, who in his later years achieved considerable repute as a novelist. The subject of this notice was educated at the Western Grammar School and King's College, London, with a view to obtaining a commission in the Royal Artillery. He was reading for this commission in 1856, when, owing to the termination of the Crimean War, the examination for commissions was postponed for six months, whereby he was disqualified, having passed the highest age (20) at which commissions in the Artillery were then given. He then determined to study for the bar, and entered himself as a student of the Inner Temple, taking at the same time a clerkship in the Privy Council Office. Shortly before he was called to the bar he resigned his Government situation, with the intention of devoting himself entirely to professional pursuits. He went the Northern Circuit for two years, with so little success, that he had sufficient leisure on his hands to enable him to contribute largely to *Punch*, *Fun* (in which "Bab Ballads" first appeared), *London Society*, and other popular magazines. Mr. Gilbert's connection with journalism was the means of his making the acquaintance of the late T. W. Robertson, through whose recommendation to Miss Herbert (then manageress of the St. James's Theatre) he owed the production of his first piece, a burlesque on the *Elixir of Love*, entitled *Dulcamara*. This was produced on the 29th of December, 1866. The remarkable success of the piece, which was written in six days and rehearsed in ten, encouraged Mr. Gilbert to continue to write for the stage; and three months after the production of *Dulcamara*, an extravaganza founded on *La Figlia del*

Reggimento, entitled *La Vivandière*, was produced with success at Liverpool, and some months afterwards at the Queen's Theatre, London. These pieces were followed by many others of the same description, all of them possessing at least this claim to distinction, that no man in woman's clothes ever appeared in any of them.

In 1869, Mr. Gilbert's first comedy, *An Old Score*, was produced at the Gaiety, and it may be mentioned that the author attributes the production of the piece entirely to the fact that he sent the piece to Mr. Hollingshead *in print*—a hint which young dramatists would do well to take. The piece was read and accepted an hour after it was placed in Mr. Hollingshead's hands, a fact which says much for the sound judgment and business-like capacity of the able manager of the Gaiety Theatre. It was followed by *The Princess*, a blank-verse parody, clever and sparkling, and yet singularly reverential, of Tennyson's exquisite poem. It was wanting, perhaps, in the rollicking fun of some of the Bon Gaultier parodies, but its whimsical purpose was maintained throughout with delightful spirit, and—a rare element this, in work of this kind—was good taste itself. In a word, it was a travesty that the Laureate himself might have laughed at. The triumphant result of Mr. Gilbert's experiment induced him to repeat it on a larger and more important scale, and in November, 1870, he produced *The Palace of Truth*, at the Haymarket, which was followed by *Pygmalion and Galatea*, and *The Wicked World*. In the meantime he had contributed pieces to the *repertoire* of the Gallery of Illustration, of which the most successful were *Ages Ago* and *A Sensation Novel*, the former written in collaboration with Mr. F. Clay, the latter with Mr. T. G. Reed. He had also written several pieces for the Court Theatre, among others, *Randall's Thumb*, *On Guard*, *Great Expectations*, and *Creatures of Impulse*. His last two pieces, *Charity* and *Ought we to Visit Her?*—of the latter of which we give a representation of one of the principal scenes—an artistic, effective, and thoroughly Gilbertesque adaptation of a novel by Mrs. Edwards, are now running at the Haymarket and the Royalty respectively.

"MARY QUEEN O' SCOTS;

OR THE CATHOLIC QUEEN AND THE PROTESTANT REFORMER."

So runs the description in the bill, of the new historical play which was produced at the Princess's on Monday night. Whether Mr. Wills's powers, either as a dramatist or a poet, are of the highest may be questioned, notwithstanding the felicitous of phrase which abound in *Charles I.*, *Medea*, and probably in *Eugene Aram*; but despite his besetting lugubriousness he is a thorough artist, and every bit of work which he turns out deserves to be tested by a high standard. It is explained that "in all natural respects the author has followed history, especially in the character of the chief persons—Knox has himself reported his interview with the young queen, and with fulness and naïve complacency, and in some passages the author fancied he could read between the lines a certain growing weakness amply compensated for by the increased rigour of his pulpit philippics." The author says further, "Although the dialogue is entirely original, he still hopes that the spirit of the interview has been fairly represented."

Whether or not—as has been suggested—Mr. Wills dug out of "some lying chronicle" the foundation of the story which he has told, for the most part, in agreeable verse, we cannot say: he declares that he has "followed history in all natural respects," and we are bound to believe him. But if his touch as a painter of history be truthful, how grievously some of his predecessors in the craft must have belied their sitters! John Knox, the iron-natured fanatic, is a familiar figure in one's reading; but John Knox playing the part of a mild Merlin to Queen Mary's Vivien, is a new figure in history, however much he be at home in the romance of tradition, or in enlivening the pages of those "lying chronicles" before mentioned. Since the Lord Chamberlain saw nothing that called for expurgation or toning down in the theological passages—at arms with which the play is sprinkled, we may assume that they are by no means out of place. We should conceive that rigid Presbyterians of the John Knox type are not in the habit of patronising the theatre to an overwhelming extent, and as all the pretty rebukes of fanatical intolerance are placed in the mouth of the beautiful Queen, there is little occasion, it may be, to apprehend a serious revival, or even an amusing imitation, of the Gordon riots in consequence of the production of the *Queen o' Scots*.

We learn in the first act of the five, which is laid in France in the early days of Marie Stuart, that Chastelard loves the Queen, and are led to infer that his love is returned. This string is played on with capricious variations throughout the entire piece. In the second act John Knox stalks into notice. The people, with the Lord Provost and other civic dignitaries at their head, are waiting to welcome the Queen as she enters the gates of Edinburgh. John Knox attempts to bar the way, he fiercely denounces her, bids her put away her crucifix,—"Lo! the mark o' Babylon—ye canna pass"—when Chastelard, unable to control his rage, interferes. This affords Her Majesty an opening for diplomacy of which she instantly avails herself. She exclaims "No French subject shall ever dare dictate to my good Scotsmen," and leaving her palfrey outside (it always is a palfrey) she enters the city on foot. In the third act we are entertained with a stormy interview between John Knox and the Queen, and in the next act she has a really pretty scene with Chastelard, which is followed by the rush of the mob into the Queen's private chapel, with John Knox at the head of the malcontents. They cry out for Chastelard, when to save the life of the man she loves, she puts in force all her powers of fascination, and we have a representation of what is described as "John Knox's Temptation and Weakness." Knox yields, and the life of Chastelard is spared, but he must quit Scotland. Hampered by his infatuation, the lover lingers in the palace, and (in the final act) is discovered by Lord James Murray, John Knox, and the Guard in the apartment of the Queen. She pleads in vain for him, John Knox joining in her entreaties; but Lord Murray is inexorable. After a passionate farewell Chastelard is taken out and shot beneath the window of her chamber; in her despair she throws herself on the ground, but at the sound of Knox's voice she rises and confronts him. Elsewhere than in the presence "of that," he informs her, at the same time pointing to the crucifix—he could pray for her. She clasps the crucifix ecstatically, it is "her only comfort," and the play ends with a really impressive tableau.

Mrs. Rousby looked, in her gorgeous dresses (changed in every act) of pale sea-green silk, and purple velvet, and crimson velvet, and so forth, charming enough for anybody's ideal of Marie Stuart. Her impersonation of the character, however, was, if satisfactory as far as it went, cold as a whole, and sketchy. In the lighter love passages with Chastelard, as the woman rather than the queen, she displayed true art, but only once, it seemed to us, when she threatened Murray, did she show any depth of passion. Mr. Rousby's 'John Knox' was steadily, consistently dull. It never flashed in the least. Any negative satisfaction which might have been derived from a matter-of-fact realisation of the part was intermittently marred by his lapses into lachrymose humour, and his by no means intermittent accent. Since it was Mr. Wills's pleasure to flavour his play with copious doses of dialect, Mr. Rousby might at least have taken a few lessons in what, to him, is palpably an unknown tongue. A modification of the same objection applies to Mr. Calhaem, whose 'Provost' was otherwise a creditable performance. Mr. Harcourt made a handsome Chastelard, rather over-boisterous perhaps, but he will tone down, and Mr. Darley a fairly satisfactory 'Rizzio.' Lord James Murray lost nothing of his historical ferocity in the hands of Mr. Fenton, and the little part of 'Jeannie' found an earnest representative in Miss Kemp. The picturesque and spectacular features of the play are of a high order, and should alone secure for it a long lease of popularity, apart from the fact of the story being an interesting one, and the skill that has been shown in the telling. Every credit should be given the management for their liberality, which by the way is shown conspicuously in the second scene of the second act. Mrs. Rousby's entrance on horseback, amid the pealing of bells and the cheers of the populace, forms a most striking stage-picture. If *Mary Queen o' Scots* is not a tour de force, it is a work of solid excellence, that ought

after a few more representations to ripen into an attractive play. In justice to Mr. and Mrs. Rousby, and Mr. Harcourt, it should be mentioned that they were several times called before the curtain. In response to the cry of "author," Mr. Rousby stated that Mr. Wills was not in the theatre, but the congratulations of the audience should be conveyed to him.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.

THIS elegant house, over the fortunes of which Mr. Henry Neville so worthily presides, has been associated in past years with more than one success in the direction of the legitimate drama; and the present lessee has, therefore, only followed the laudable example of his predecessors in seeking to revive the classic memories of his theatre by the production of Shakspeare's inimitable play of *Much Ado about Nothing*. Of all our great poet's works of the lighter order, this is possibly the most meritorious and certainly the most diverting. The tedium sometimes inseparable from the performance of a Shaksperian tragedy is never attendant on the representation of the above delightful comedy. Few modern pieces excel *Much Ado about Nothing* in interest of plot, whilst for genuine wit it is unsurpassed—perhaps unrivalled. The lapse of three centuries has left undiminished that effect which its superbly brilliant dialogue has produced on theatrical audiences of all times and conditions. It is obvious, however, that to do justice to such a work, the manager risking its presentation should have at his disposal a corps dramatique of the highest capacity, and unfortunately we cannot justly accredit the members of the Olympic company (always excepting Mr. Neville) with any special aptitude for the embodiment of the poetic drama. A troupe collected for the purposes of modern comedy can hardly be expected to rise at a bound to the Shaksperian altitude. *Ne sutor ultra crepidam* is a good old maxim, and one that the manager of the Olympic would have done well to bear in mind, before treading on dangerous ground; but this point once established, it must be admitted that Mr. Neville has done wonders with the materials at his command. The general *mise-en-scène* of the play demands the warmest commendation, and the piece is dressed with the utmost magnificence, yet at the same time with a scrupulous regard for chronological correctness. Moreover, the scenic illustration of the text by Mr. Julian Hicks is admirable in the highest degree; but the acting of the comedy is not so satisfactory. Of course the character of 'Benedick' is essayed by Mr. Henry Neville, and if proof were wanting, that this consummate artiste can do nothing badly, it would be supplied by his very creditable rendering of a part totally unsuited to his style. Though Mr. Neville looks Benedick to the life, the mournful cadence of his voice, which he turns to such effective account as the *jeune premier* of romantic drama, prevents his imparting due effect to the sparkling passages placed in the mouth of the Paduan misogamist. Judged by the standard of some of her previous achievements, Miss Fowler's 'Beatrice' is a praiseworthy effort; but years of study stand between the actress and the ripening of her talents in a degree sufficient to enable her to cope with the difficulties of Beatrice. The 'Leonato' of Mr. Voltaire is a powerful impersonation, and in Mr. W. H. Vernon we have a manly and sonorous 'Don Pedro.' Mr. W. H. Fisher gives the lines of Claudio with careful emphasis, but his style is a trifle too effeminate, even for an Italian lover. Since the first night of this revival, Mr. Edward Righton has greatly improved his assumption of the blundering Dogberry, which character he now enacts with commendable unobtrusiveness and much quiet humour. As 'Hero,' Miss Marion Terry is seen to considerable advantage; still, her performance would be greatly improved if she could conquer an occasional indistinctness of elocution in the more emotional passages. It would be idle to predict for *Much Ado about Nothing*, as now presented, any prolonged lease of popularity; but the revival adequately serves the purpose of affording time for the complete preparation of Mr. Tom Taylor's new historical drama, actually in rehearsal here, and announced for speedy production.

"ELDORADO."

AFTER running for an unprecedentedly lengthened period, *Nemesis* was withdrawn from the stage of the Strand Theatre on Thursday week in favour of a piece similarly fashioned, also from the pen of Mr. H. B. Farnie. The little house was crowded with a more than usually curious audience—rumour having credited the manageress with even more than her accustomed generosity and taste in the manner of production—and we may say at the outset that in that essential respect nobody retired disappointed.

If bright scenery, lavish appointments, and lustrous dresses could, unaided by sustained fun and good humour, have secured for *Eldorado* the approval of the more critical of the audience, that approval would have been most cordially given. But it is Mr. Farnie's fault that he has taught us to look for something more. When he is interpreted by the Strand company, we expect to have our sense of the ridiculous easily tickled—to be "slain with laughter." The general impression left by *Eldorado* was that the author had erred on the side of excess: had attempted too much. The author suffered by being compared with himself. It was unreasonable perhaps to anticipate a second *Nemesis* to follow immediately in the track of the first. The story of the extravaganza—told, however, as we think with undue prolixity in five carefully contrived scenes—is diverting and ingenious enough. Four of the most distinguished inhabitants of the village of Fouilly-les-Oies, namely the Mayor, the host, the miller, and a wealthy widow (Miss Sallie Turner), agree, after a divertingly lively debate, to journey to Paris and spend their year's winnings at bézique, in "seeing life." Each, unknown to the other, has been corresponding with a matrimonial agent, and is anxious to reach the capital in order to bring about the match which the agent has undertaken to arrange with a certain rich widow, who is none other than the companion of their expedition. The Mayor has visited the capital in his infancy—"has known Paris from his cradle"—and he

will conduct them. "They must trust to their Mayor!" The peculiarities of the three male characters, physical and other, are made conspicuous from the beginning—possibly rather too conspicuous for the full enjoyment of the author's really humorous conception. The distinctive eccentricities of the Mayor (Mr. Terry), the miller (Mr. Odell), and the host (Mr. Cox), should be allowed to grow more on the audience's sense of their absurdity. In the hands of a less superb actor of burlesque than Mr. Terry, repeated efforts to compress a too corpulent figure within symmetrical bounds would become wearisome to behold long ere the conclusion of the piece. The miller, who speaks and sings in "childish treble," longs to go to Paris to purchase a pickaxe; with regard to him, it may be said, that when reaches Paris he puts rather too much pickaxe into a punctuation of his speeches.

In Paris they dine at the "Trois Frères," and are arrested for refusing to pay the hotel bill. The scene in the police-court which follows is by far the most amusing in the piece. Nothing could have been funnier than Mr. Terry's apoplectic failures to address the officer (M. Marius) who receives the charge. In this scene too the wonderful flexibility of Mr. Odell's "face-making face" provoked repeated bursts of merriment. It might spoil the enjoyment of the Strand habitués who have yet to visit *Eldorado* were we to describe the neat underplot which culminates in the Matrimonial Agency Office and leads up to the conclusion of the piece. Clever as this latter portion is in construction the effect of the whole would be greatly enhanced by a rageously cutting it down by at least one half. There are materials for a couple of Strand pieces in the extravaganza and in the confident expectation that on the occasion of our next visit we shall find evidences of free pruning, we foretell "a run" for Mr. Farnie's latest effort. A quintette in the first scene, and a nonsense song of Mr. Terry's, will probably prove the most popular of the musical pieces which are of the usual effervescent French character. The costumes worn by Messrs. Terry, Odell, and Cox, and Miss Sallie Turner are indescribably funny—nothing so ludicrous has ever been seen out of a French caricature—and with regard to the last-named lady, it is perhaps enough to say that she played up to the three eccentrics with unflinching spirit. Miss Claude was a fascinating Matrimonial Agent, and the part of a waiter was played with delicious effrontery by Miss Topsy Venn. In fine, there was no ground for grumbling at any of the acting: everything was done for the author that author could have wished: it only remains for him to do his part to make *Eldorado* almost as great a success as *Nemesis*. But he will have to do that part unsparingly.

"TOO CLEVER BY HALF."

ORIGINALITY has long been at a discount with respect to the literature of the modern English stage—and there is consequently nothing surprising in the fact that not alone for their dramas and comedies, but even for their farces, the playwrights of the day must acknowledge their indebtedness to foreign sources. The latest example of the rage for adaptation is furnished by a one-act absurdity which, under the title of *Too Clever by Half*, Messrs. John Oxenford and Joseph Hutton have founded on MM. Barrière and Thiboust's well-known Palais Royal comedy of *Une Corneille qui abat des Noix*, and which was produced at the Gaiety for the first time on Tuesday evening last with all the usual indications of success. Of course, the French piece has undergone considerable excision, and, indeed, the English version is neither more nor less than a farce of the most extravagant order. Closely resembling, as does the plot, that of the original work, it is sufficiently described by the remark that all the leading incidents of the Parisian comedy are reproduced with more or less fidelity under an Anglicised aspect. Casimir Pincebourde, the unconsciously mischievous busy-body of the French piece, is here rechristened Titus Quillet, from Manchester, and his most prominent characteristics are a perfect confidence in his own sagacity, and a proneness to meddle in the affairs of other people with the most philanthropic intentions but the most unfortunate results. His alternate suspicions that the wife of his host, Julius Trumble, has conceived a passion for Walter Wise, the lover of her step-daughter, Lucy; that the latter is carrying on a guilty intrigue with Guido Stubbs, a pianoforte tuner, who has been clandestinely married to the servant girl, Araminta; and that the child of the wedded pair is the issue of Lucy's shame, give rise to the most amusing complications; and the sustained fun of this briskly written trifle reflects the highest credit on the skill of the adapters. Not the least merit of the production is, that in the rôle of Titus Quillet it supplies Mr. J. L. Toole with a character thoroughly suited to his peculiarity of style. The popular comedian has rarely, if ever, played better, and the self-complacent demeanour of Titus, as with each successive blunder into which he falls he congratulates himself on the service he has rendered his friend Julius, arouses the hearty merriment of his audience. Mr. Lionel Brough displays some humour as 'Guido Stubbs.' In the hands of such experienced artists as Mr. Maclean and Mr. Soutar, the characters of 'Julius Trumble' and 'Walter Wise' are perfectly safe, whilst with the vivacious acting of Miss E. Farren as 'Araminta,' and the efficient representation of 'Mrs. Trumble' and 'Lucy' by Miss C. Loseby and Miss Hunter, the performance of *Too Clever by Half* leaves little to desire; and the new piece will probably retain for some time to come its present position in the Gaiety programme.

TWENTY YEARS YOUNGER.—To say that hundreds of maids, wives, and widows look twenty years younger than they are in consequence of the complexional freshness derived from the use of HAGEN'S MAGNOLIA BALM, is simply to state an absolute fact, which might be promptly verified by direct testimony if ladies were as willing to tell their ages as to use the best means of making themselves lovely. Nature sometimes, but very rarely, crowns the charm of perfect features with a complexion of exquisite clearness; but even then time soon begins to make inroads upon the velvet cheek, the fair white brow, the ivory bust, the rounded arm. To preserve the "glory of woman" unblemished, even after the meridian of life has been passed, it is only necessary to use daily this cooling, healthful vegetable preparation, which is sold by all Chemists and Perfumers, at 3s. 6d. Depot: 114 & 118, Southampton-row, London.—[ADVT.]

COMPLIMENTARY BENEFIT TO MR. B. WEBSTER.

SINCE the memorable Farewell Benefit of the late Mr. Macready on the same boards, when that eminent tragedian made his last appearance on the stage as 'Macbeth,' with Mr. Phelps (the 'Sir Peter Teazle' of the ensuing performance) as 'Macduff,' no event has created such universal interest in theatrical annals as the complimentary benefit to Mr. Benjamin Webster on his retirement from management, to take place on Monday afternoon next at Drury Lane Theatre. Within a few days after the first announcement, almost the whole of the tickets were subscribed for, and those returned to the committee of management for disposal to the general public have been bought with great avidity, and at enormous premiums. This eagerness to do honour to the distinguished artist, and such a veteran favourite of the play-goers of London, where he had made his first appearance at the old Coburg Theatre so long ago as 1818, has been shared by the entire profession, who have vied with each other in lending their individual services so as to impart an unprecedented excellence and completeness to the entertainment; especially to the *pièce de résistance* selected for the occasion, viz., Sheridan's *School for Scandal*, which will be represented with the following powerful cast:—Sir Peter Teazle, Mr. Phelps; Sir Oliver Surface, Mr. S. Emery; Joseph Surface, Mr. Creswick; Charles Surface, Mr. Charles Mathews; Sir Benjamin Backbite, Mr. Buckstone; Crabtree, Mr. Compton; Careless, Mr. H. J. Montague; Trip, Mr. J. Clarke; Moses, Mr. J. L. Toole; Snake, Mr. T. Thorne; Rowley, Mr. Horace Wigan; Sir Harry (with the Song "Here's to the Maiden"), Mr. W. Wrighton; Sir Toby, Mr. J. Billington; Servant to Charles Surface, Mr. Lionel Brough; Servant to Joseph Surface, Mr. David James; Servant to Sir Peter Teazle, Mr. Righton; Servant to Lady Sneerwell, Mr. Brittain Wright; Lady Teazle, Miss Helen Faucit (who has, in the kindest manner, consented to undertake the part on this occasion); Mrs. Candour, Mrs. Stirling; Lady Sneerwell, Mrs. Alfred Mellon; Maria, Miss Isabel Bateman; Lady Teazle's Maid, Miss E. Farren; Guests by the principal members of the Dramatic Profession.

After the Comedy, Mr. Henry Irving will recite Hood's poem of "The Dream of Eugene Aram."

The performance will conclude with a friendly demonstration by members of the Profession and others, when Mrs. Keeley will deliver an Address, written by John Oxenford, Esq., to which Mr. Benjamin Webster will respond.

THE LATE MR. SHIRLEY BROOKS.

THE past week has been unhappily signalised by the death of, perhaps, one of the most popular writers of the day in the person of Mr. Shirley Brooks, the Editor of *Punch*.

Mr. Brooks was born in 1815, and was therefore in his 59th year at the time of his decease, which took place, after a brief illness, on Monday, at Kent Terrace, Regent's Park. He was originally intended for the law, but at a comparatively early age he adopted literature as a profession, and published one or two plays, which, however, made no stir at the time, and are now well nigh forgotten. Soon afterwards he joined the reporting staff of the *Morning Chronicle*, then in its palmy days, and in that capacity laid the foundation of the knowledge of all subjects connected with the House of Commons and parliamentary procedure, which he afterwards turned to such good account in the columns of the *Press* newspaper, which was started in 1853 to write down the Coalition Ministry, and later still in the brilliant and sparkling "Essence of Parliament" papers with which the readers of *Punch* in recent years are so familiar.

While connected with the *Chronicle*, Mr. Brooks travelled a good deal in various parts of the Continent as Special Correspondent, and contributed to the pages of "London Labour and London Poor" those chapters which relate to the poor of the various foreign countries which he visited. He also published a book called "The Russians of the South," which excited some attention at the time of its appearance. On relinquishing his connection with the *Chronicle*, Mr. Brooks turned his attention to works of fiction, and published "Aspen Court," which is perhaps the best of his novels; and subsequently he wrote "The Silver Cord" and "The Gordian Knot," which however are not equal to the former in merit.

In the year 1859, Mr. Brooks undertook the editorship of the *Literary Gazette*, which however ceased to exist soon afterwards, and may be reckoned almost the only literary failure with which his name has been ever associated.

Besides undertaking a considerable amount of anonymous journalistic work on the London press, Mr. Brooks was for many years one of the chief contributors to *Punch*, and, on the death of Mark Lemon in 1870, was called to occupy the editorial chair, in which capacity it may be said that he has endeared himself to all with whom he has ever been associated, either in business or in more intimate relations.

Mr. Brooks was a man of consummate taste and tact, and was distinguished by a hearty, genial, and unaffected manner, which at once captivated all who were in any way brought in contact with him.

Kind and generous to a fault, his loss will be severely felt, not only by a wide circle of friends, but by many of those whose labours have been lightened and leisure hours entertained by the elegance of his literary style and the brilliancy of his rich and fertile genius.

GOUT HAS BEEN SPORTIVELY TERMED an aristocratic ailment, because it chiefly attacks those who, possessing the means of indulging in the pleasures of the table, have given themselves up to such sensuous enjoyments. But the torturing complaint is by no means limited to the rich, and is an infliction of the severest character, and an efficacious remedy is a real blessing. This is only to be found, however, in POWELL'S RHEUMATIC EMBROCATION, which, as its title implies, assails a disorder akin to Gout, and is equally serviceable in cases of Sciatica, Lumbago, &c. Its marvellous efficacy is attested by H.R.H. the Duke d'Almeida, the late Earl of Charendon, the Right Hon. Frances Countess Waldegrave, the Right Hon. the Countess of Radnor, and many other eminent persons, copies of whose testimonials accompany each bottle. May be obtained of all Chemists. Price 1s. 1d., and 2s. 9d. Laboratory: 114 & 116, Southampton-row, London.—[ADVT.]

Provincial.

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE (Lessee, Mr. W. Gomersal.)—Friday, February 20th, was the benefit of Mr. H. D. Burton, the favourite low comedian of this theatre, who was happy in securing a crowded house. The pieces played were *The Old Toll-House*, in which the leading parts were sustained by the *bénéficiaire* and Mr. Dornton; the fifth act of *Richard III.*, in which Mr. Burton again appeared, assisted by the lessee himself; and *Little Amy Robsart*, in which Mr. Gordon of Craigmyle was more than usually successful.

BIRMINGHAM.

At the two theatres here, Pantomime is still in the ascendant, and is destined to be so for some weeks longer. At the Theatre Royal (Manager, Mr. M. H. Simpson), *Beauty and the Beast* continues to draw crowded houses.

At the Prince of Wales's Theatre (sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Rodgers), *Humpty Dumpty* is still the one feature of interest, Miss Minnie Harford's charming acting, and Miss H. T. Power's graceful dancing, never failing to elicit the warmest applause.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—The drama, as represented in Bolton, has gradually improved during the last few months, and the Theatre Royal—the only theatre in the town, the proprietor and lessee being Mr. Weston—has received an increasing amount of patronage in consequence. Last week Miss Marriott occupied the theatre, and on Saturday evening, her last appearance, the house was crowded by over 3000 persons, to witness her representation of *Hamlet*. This week Miss Virginia Blackwood and her Royal Surrey Theatre Company appear here. They stay here during next week also, after which they go to Preston.

BRISTOL.

NEW THEATRE (Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Chute).—The pantomime of *Valentine and Orson*, one of the most successful for many years, has only been withdrawn a week before the close of the regular season.

OLD THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. J. H. Chute).—For a fortnight past the King Street Theatre has been occupied by Mr. Eldred and his company, who have presented Bristolians for the first time with the Strand success, *Nemesis*. It has, together with the same farces and burlesques, drawn large houses.

DUBLIN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—With Shrove Tuesday the pantomime of *Valentine and Orson* was practically brought to a close, and the season to an end. On Monday, Mr. Marston, the box book-keeper, took his benefit. The programme included *The Little Treasure*, *Naval Engagements*, and *The Birth-place of Podgers*. The ordinary stock company at the Royal is not able to command a house. On Monday, Mr. Granby, the stage manager, with Captain Vivian (amateur) as 'Lieutenant Kingston, R.N.,' in *Naval Engagements*, and Mr. Richard Purdon (amateur) in *The Birth-place of Podgers*, were the attractions. The Royal will remain closed from the end of this week until after Easter. Mr. Harris, the lessee, has lately obtained a renewal of the lease, and although matters between him and the debenture holders are not yet fully arranged, it is announced that he intends re-decorating the theatre while it is closed.

GAIETY THEATRE.—This is to be the last week of the Gaiety Pantomime, *King Turko the Terrible*. From beginning to end the pantomime has enjoyed favour. The company was exceptionally good, including Miss Annie Sinclair, Miss Madge Stavart, Mr. E. W. Royce, and M. Loredan. Miss Sinclair, Miss Stavart, and M. Loredan take leave of us on Saturday. Miss Sinclair, I understand, goes to the Opera Comique. Upon the whole there has rarely been a more successful entertainment in Dublin. The pantomime is, in fact, an opera bouffe, and hence its popularity. The words of the songs are by Mr. Hamilton, the music arranged by Mr. Jackson, and the scenery painted by Mr. Fox, junior.

DUNDEE.

THEATRE ROYAL (Lessee, Mr. R. Cowie, jun.).—The programme on Monday was *The Dead Shot*, succeeded by the Grand Ballet; to which succeeded Mr. H. J. Byron's burlesque version of *La Sonnambula*, and then the famous Colonna quadrille given by the troupe of that name, who have been here for a fortnight, concluding with *Slasher and Crasher*. We have to record the immense success of the Colonna party in Dundee.

EDINBURGH.

THEATRE ROYAL (Lessee, H. R. Wyndham).—The present week will see the last of the pantomime, *The Sleeping Beauty*, which, during the run, has been seen by more than 90,000 spectators. We have simply to say, in bidding it adieu, that the piece deserved this extensive patronage.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. A. D. McNeill). Monday was devoted to the benefit of Mr. Frank Hill, the pieces being *Lost in London*, in which Mr. McNeill sustained the part of 'Job Armroyd,' and the *bénéficiaire*, 'Benjamin Blinker;' and *Nobody's Child*.

MUSIC HALL.—A grand morning concert was given here on Saturday last, in connection with the Edinburgh Choral Union. The artistes were selected from Mr. Mapleson's Italian Opera Company, and included Mmes. Titiens, Sinico, Trebelli-Bettini, and Justine Macvitz; Signori Bettini, Agnesi, and Perkin.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr. Neebe, the lessee, took his benefit last Monday, when he produced a version of Dickens's *Christmas Carol*, in which he enacted the character of 'Bob Cratchit' with great success. The next piece was *Box and Cox*, sustained by Mr. Neebe and Capt. Bailey, a leading local amateur.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL (Lessee, Mr. A. Wright).—Herr Bandmann concluded an engagement here on Saturday, February 21st, when *Rob Roy* and *The Duke's Motto* were the chief attractions. Herr Bandmann realised the part of the gallant freebooter to the satisfaction of the audience.

HULL.

MESSRS. GOUGH AND DAVY'S CONCERT.—On the 13th inst. Mr. Mapleson's company of artistes gave a concert under the auspices of Messrs. Gough and Davy, in the hall of the Artillery Barracks. There was a crowded house. It is sufficient to say that Titiens and Sinico were in excellent voice.

Mr. Sefton Parry has produced *Macbeth* at the Theatre Royal in a highly satisfactory manner, the pantomime being now "out of the bill."

LEEDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—After an absence of twelve months, Mr. Coleman has returned to the stage of his own theatre, and revived the *Corsican Brothers*. As this is the first time the piece has been adequately represented in Leeds, it has proved a great attraction. The dual characters of 'Fabien' and 'Louis de Franchi' are ably represented by Mr. Coleman, who is well supported.

AMPHITHEATRE.—*Leath*, with Mrs. George Owen in the principal character, has been the principal attraction of the week.

MANCHESTER.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—The extraordinary success of the pantomime of *Cinderella* at this house seems to have taken even the management by surprise; although they have long been accustomed to a greater share of good fortune than falls to the lot of most theatres. Eight performances every week have been attended by vast crowds; and, even after a run of two months, the attractiveness of the piece has not perceptibly diminished. The success, great as it is, must be admitted to be well deserved; all who were concerned in its production having, apparently, exerted themselves to the utmost.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr. Charles Mathews commenced an engagement here on Monday, and was received in the usual hearty manner. He appeared as 'Mr. Twiggletton' in *A Curious Case*, and was very well supported by Mr. F. Haywell as 'Mr. Aubrey.' The afterpiece was the Pantomime of *Bluff King Hal*, terminating with the Transformation Scene.

QUEEN'S.—*Little Jack Horner* still continues to draw good houses, its chief attraction being the 'Ballet Ecossais,' and Mr. F. Lloyd's excellent Transformation Scene.

MIDDLESBOROUGH-ON-TEES.

MRS. HOWARD PAUL.—This popular artiste, accompanied by Mr. Arthur Matthison, appeared in her lyric and dramatic entertainment on Wednesday and Thursday, February 18 and 19, in the Odd Fellows' Hall.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr. Charles Dillon having left this establishment, 'legitimate drama' has this week given way to moderate melodrama with the advent of a comedian named E. Stafford Smith. During the week which commenced on Monday last, 23rd inst., *Across the Continent* has been occupying the boards and drawing average houses. The piece was admirably mounted, and went, for a first representation, quite smoothly. Mr. E. S. Smith played the part of 'Dennis O'Dwyer' with telling effect. Mr. Lester (comedian) caused continuous laughter as 'Caesar Augustus,' a stage-stricken negro. Other assumptions undertaken were 'Joe Ferris' (Mr. F. Wallace), 'John Adderley' (Mr. Lisle Harrison), 'Mr. Goodwin' (Mr. E. Gofton), and 'Miss Goodwin' (Miss Dora Usher).

ART EXHIBITION.—Sir J. Noel Paton's celebrated painting, *Mors Janua Vitae*, has been on view at Mr. S. Leach's rooms for the past fortnight. The picture has been seen by hundreds of delighted visitors.

SHEFFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL (Lessee, Mr. Eldred).—At this theatre the Pantomime of *Beauty and the Beast* has had a most successful run; it will be withdrawn on Saturday. Mr. Barry Sullivan is announced to appear next week in a round of his famous impersonations.

THE ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—The Pantomime at this house, *Little Bo-peep and Red Riding Hood*, will be played for the last time on Saturday. Next week the regular dramatic season will commence.

The opening of the Albert Hall has given an impetus to musical enterprise in this town, but the pecuniary success of the undertaking is doubted.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL (under the management of Mr. G. H. Chaplin).—The Pantomime is withdrawn after a run of eight weeks, and has been followed by a succession of Melodramas. On Monday last, 23rd inst., the piece was *Faith, Hope and Charity*, with Mr. Chaplin as the graceless 'Jabez Drake.' On Tuesday *Nellie's Broken Vow*, in which Miss Mackney assumed the part of the erring spinster with commendable effect; and Mr. Chaplin sustained 'Job Armroyd' most intelligently. The stock company are able artistes, and full attendances are the result.

MRS. BANCROFT has published the following important "Notice: Sheridan's comedy, the *School for Scandal*, has been for some weeks in preparation, and will shortly be acted for the first time by the Prince of Wales's company. During the hundred years which have nearly elapsed since its original production, the tastes and requirements of audiences have considerably changed, and the management therefore feels assured of not being charged with disrespect to the author of this great play for attempting to heighten the effect of his work by an unexampled attention to the costumes, scenery, and general appointments; nor by a few transpositions in the sequence of scenes, made with every regard for the integrity of the text. An original comedy, in two acts, written by W. S. Gilbert, will be produced upon the withdrawal of the *School for Scandal*. We predict for the ever-green comedy a longer reign at the little house in Tottenham Street than is implied by the spirit of the above notice. The curiosity of the majority of those who have seen and enjoyed the Haymarket and Vaudeville representations of the comedy will not soon be exhausted.



HENGLER'S CIRCUS.

(Drawn by WALLIS MACKAY.)

HENGLER'S.

WHEN Mr. Charles Hengler pitched his tent in Argyll Street, some three years ago, it was predicted in a good many oracular quarters of the town that the new venture "would never do." The exact locality of the new circus, albeit a spot in the very heart of the business part of the West End, was almost unknown to frequenters of places of amusement. Equestrian performances had been tried in an arena not very remote from Argyll Street, and had not filled "the treasury." It was a mad idea on the part of Mr. Hengler, and its realisation was exceedingly doubtful. So augured the metropolitan prophets, but in certain towns in the provinces where Mr. Hengler's name had been for a long series of years associated with success at once solid and brilliant, no such misgivings were felt. Those who best knew the proprietor of the "Grand Cirque" were confident that if he set his hand to the work of making his London house a fixture, he would—if he wrought with his accustomed energy—achieve his purpose.

In Hull, and Glasgow, and Liverpool, and a score of other considerable populous centres in Great Britain, Mr. Hengler's name had long been a guarantee for the highest excellence in what professional people term his "line." And three years since his country *clientèle* unhesitatingly declared that he had only to give the Cockneys as superior a class of entertainment as they had for years been accustomed to in order to establish a permanent home in London. If we recollect aright, Mr. Hengler had in the beginning the assistance of Mr. Henry, a gentleman of large experience in front of the house; within the arena, where the hand of the proprietor was most distinctly traceable, had he not Little Sandy and Miss Jenny Louise Hengler, and, in fine, an entertainment the very best of its kind? Herein lies the secret of Mr. Hengler's success. He spares neither money nor pains to obtain the most distinguished artists, the handsomest and best trained horses, the most tasteful and lavish appointments. Every part of the immense establishment moves with the regularity and precision of clockwork. Hengler's is a success. Those who have paid a visit to the Grand Cirque will readily recognise the "bits" in Mr. Mackay's sketch. The proprietor and his two assistants; Revolti, the genius of the ring, and Mr. Teesdale, whose place is in front of the house; Jenny Louise, gracefulest of horsewomen; Little Sandy, superb low comedian and inimitable clown; and Mr. Bibb and Mr. Williams, with those clever children—command us to that boy who bows to his tiny partner, he will be heard of again, or we never saw comedy in petticoats—who, unaided for the most part by a single adult, played the most delightful version of *Cinderella* we ever saw. All these and more are to be seen at Hengler's.

VOLTIGEUR.

POOR old Volti—gone at last! The most enthusiastically beloved, the worst abused of sires, over whose dead body Greek and Trojan may still be expected to fight—all Yorkshire will mourn its departed pet, so soon doomed to follow his old master. We shall have more to say of his history and performances at the Stud and on the Turf, in a forthcoming number, but we could not let his death pass without some sort of notice. Spared to a healthy and green old age, it was accident after all that deprived the English Stud of his services—and but for that unlucky kick, he might have equalled the years of the oldest of our sires. Even now the Northerners do not despair of the advent of some son or daughter to vindicate his memory, and dispel the cloud hanging round his reputation as a "father of our Kings to be." Time rolls on since the old Earl's death, and still we have no promise of one to succeed to the glory of the "spots"—a jacket the Ridings could ill spare to lose, and for which the South waxed as enthusiastic as the North. Things are altered now, when fewer of the nobles of the land come down from their high places to mingle in the pursuits of a "great and free people." Those seeking after novelty may sneer at the rather humdrum times when the Derby swallowed up all the interest at present spread over the issue of so many less important events. Could we be carried back to the morning of Voltigeur's Derby Day (as many of our readers will be) we should find indeed that

"The old order changeth, giving place to new,"

and that the fashion of those times has passed for ever away. We shall not pause here to moralise, but the death of such a link between past and future as Voltigeur, cannot fail to set thinking minds to solve the problem (at present under Admiral Rous's consideration) as to whether in our breeding and racing systems we are or are not "wiser than our sires."

ADMIRAL THE HON. HENRY JOHN ROUS.

DEVOTING, as is our intention, no inconsiderable part of this journal to the illustration of British sports and pastimes, and those prominently connected with them, we need offer no apology for commencing our portrait gallery of distinguished sportsmen with the Hon. H. J. Rous, Admiral of the Blue. The family of Le Rus or Rous is of Norman origin, and one of the most ancient in Suffolk, where they possessed property in the Hundred of Stradbroke at a very remote period, and subsequently purchased Henham Hall, the family seat, from Henry VIII. in 1545. The Admiral was born on the 23rd January, 1795, and is the second son of the late and brother of the present Earl of Stradbroke, who is only some eleven months his senior. Though more fitted, from his commanding stature, to embrace the army as his profession; the Earl having elected to join that branch of the public service, the subject of our memoir chose the Navy, which he entered in 1808, and in 1809 received his first appointment as mid-

shipman on board the *Repulse*, in which vessel he served during the Flushing expedition. He was soon after transferred to the *Bacchante*, Capt. Sir William Hoste, when he had an opportunity of distinguishing himself in the Gulf of Venice, and gained a medal for the tact and bravery he displayed in several boat actions. When only seventeen years old he was put in command of three several merchantmen, and in one of them, an oil vessel, was swamped, owing to a plug working out of her bottom, and was hanging on to her gunwale from midnight until 4 o'clock in the morning, when he and his four men were picked up, 40 miles from land, by the last vessel of a convoy previously captured by the *Bacchante*, off Ancona. In the winter of the same year, while still serving under Sir Wm. Hoste in the Mediterranean, he was again nearly lost; for, being in command of a trabaccolo, laden with timber and rice, with which he was on his way from Lissa to Malta, one of those treacherous storms arose so common in those seas off Manfredonia, which completely swept the deck of everything, even the compass being carried away. In this condition he brought the vessel to Malta without the aid of a compass, and although he lost one of his crew of four men by falling overboard, he brought his four prisoners safe to land. In 1817 he was made commander, and in that capacity served on board the *Mæander*, *Conqueror*, *Podargus*, *Mosquito*, *Sappho*, and *Hind*, until 1823, when he received his post-rank, and was in 1825 appointed to the *Rainbow*, which he commanded on the New Holland and Indian stations for the succeeding four years. His period of service having expired, at the end of 1829 he returned home, and his ship being paid off, he remained on half-pay until 1835, when he was appointed to the command of the *Pique*, and again went afloat, on the 10th of April in that year. In this vessel he took out the Canadian Commissioners, among whom were Lord Gosford and Sir G. Gipps, and was at Quebec in September, when she was ordered to take Lord and Lady Aylmer to England; and as the narrative of her voyage, taken from the log of the *Pique*, may interest our readers, we give the story as detailed by her chief mate, Mr. Robert Dawes Aldriche.

"The embarkation of Lord and Lady Aylmer was fixed for the 17th of September, and at 2 o'clock p.m. a gun from the batteries announced their departure from Canadian soil, when immediately ships and batteries joined in the general salute, and the *Pique* weighed anchor amid the rolling thunder of our guns, reverberating from the surrounding heights. The three first days our ship glided down the St. Lawrence with fine days and fair winds, which we little thought were hurrying us on to almost total destruction.

"On the 20th, 21st, and 22nd, but especially on the latter day, we had unfavourable weather, a dense fog preventing our taking such observations as would accurately give the ship's position; but at 4 o'clock p.m. the fog cleared away sufficiently to enable us to take bearings of the land, but from the sameness of the Newfoundland coast we could not be sure of our exact position. As the afternoon wore on the weather gradually thickened, and being close in with St. John's Head, our captain, to avoid the low rocky shore and islands, stood over to the Labrador side. At 10 o'clock p.m. the weather getting worse we shortened sail, and being under the impression that we could discern the shore at two miles distance, stood in gradually, approaching it by sailing as we supposed in nearly a parallel line to the shore; which subsequently appeared was the cause of our accident, as by doing so we caught an unknown current which drove the ship faster towards the shore than our calculations—deduced from charts which no one knew the inaccuracy of until the Court Martial—allowed for. About 10:20 p.m., when many of us had adjourned to smoke a cigar in the centre of the ship, and the Assistant Surgeon had commenced humming 'Oh, pilot, 'tis a fearful night,' the look-out man cried 'Hard a-port!' Dreadful sound! it flew through the ship instantly, and the next moment she struck, grinding on the rock fearfully. Many were thrown out of their hammocks by the concussion, and all below soon hurried to their posts on deck, the greater number nearly naked, while nothing was to be seen outside the ship but a white line of foaming surf.

"By backing the yards, the ship receded a little, and we were congratulating ourselves on the touch and go, when the wind suddenly shifted six points, filling our sails, which caused her to strike again with a force that threatened to knock the masts out of the ship, and she settled down for the night on a small point jutting out from the land, wedged in between two rocks. We supposed ourselves on a sunken reef, and not until daylight next morning—eight hours after striking—were we able to ascertain our position to be on the mainland, as all was shrouded in the darkness of a stormy night; and had not the wind providentially shifted again and commenced blowing off shore, we could not have survived so many hours. After shortening and furling sails and yards, we commenced lightening the ship by starting our fresh water, throwing guns and shot, &c., overboard, the pumps were set to work, manned by both men and officers, and though our situation was so critical the work was done not only without a murmur but with extraordinary good humour and exertion. Immediately after striking the boats were hoisted out and employed laying anchors, for this was the last and only chance we had of saving the ship. As the morning wore on, one of the Marine officers, addressing the captain, said he had just enjoyed a good breakfast, that put him in such spirits he hoped to get the ship off. 'Do you?' said the skipper; 'perhaps it would do us all good.' And then to the general surprise, with the most perfect *sang froid* and in excessive good humour, he ordered all hands to breakfast. This struck the greatest confidence into the crew, who rushed to it like boys unexpectedly given a holiday. Previous to going below I had made an observation of the shore that would enable me to judge if the ship moved ahead, and after a hasty breakfast I hastened on deck, which I had scarcely reached when I saw the *Pique* move in the right direction, a movement the captain also perceived and ordered all hands up, manned the capstan, and in a little time after, after some tremendous crashes, the last of which struck the rudder, the cables were cut and the ship reached deep water. Three hearty cheers were then given,

and when finished Lord Aylmer called for 'three more for Captain Rous, who knows how to take care of you,' and these last were deafening indeed—my blood ran cold through me, and my heart overflowed with gratitude to our Creator for his merciful preservation of us from shipwreck on such a bleak inhospitable shore. The ship having been thus wormed out of her bed of rocks, was run into Ance-au-loup bay, and anchored for the night, making 23 inches of water per hour. The following morning, September 24th, she set sail for England, and after experiencing terrible weather, in which she lost her rudder, had to get her top-gallant masts on deck, cut away her best bower-anchor, and clear everything out of the fore part of the ship, she reached St. Helen's on the 13th of October, at 4 A.M., having run 1,500 miles without any rudder, and the ship requiring to be pumped every hour."

Our first plate represents the *Pique* at the moment of carrying away her rudder, firing guns of distress to a brig which just then hove in sight, but immediately made sail away from her; and our second represents her as she appeared in dock at Portsmouth, showing the entire destruction of her keels, fore-foot and garboard, from beating on the rocks off Cape Fortune on the coast of Labrador.

A writer in *Baily* has well remarked, respecting this feat, "that when it is considered he made a run of 1500 miles without a rudder, and with a leak that made twenty-three inches of water per hour, it has no parallel even in those noble acts of daring peculiar to the British seaman, and one would have imagined it would have obtained for him some more substantial reward than the cold letter of approbation from the First Lord of the Admiralty which accompanied his paying off. But party feeling ran high at Whitehall at that period, and his politics being counter to those who were in authority over him, the only recognition of his value as an officer was his re-appointment to his old ship in 1836, in which he merely served long enough to complete his sea time; and having married the same year Sophia, daughter of the late J. R. Outhbert, Esq., of Grosvenor Square, he retired from the service with a reputation that will stand any criticism, whether for seamanship, bravery, or honourable conduct, in the various grades of his career."

In 1841 the electors of Westminster chose him for their representative, and Sir Robert Peel, coming into power, offered him a seat at the Admiralty, which he accepted, and whilst in office showed that administrative talent which, later in life, he displayed to such advantage in a widely different sphere. At the election that followed the dissolution of 1846, the electors of Westminster refusing to renew their confidence in him, he retired into private life, when his old fondness for the turf broke out afresh, and he took up his residence at Newmarket. We say "his old fondness for the turf," for his love of the race-horse was born with him at Henham Hall, on whose grassy slopes were reared many celebrities of the past, for there, in his younger days, his brother had Caravan, second to Phosphorus for the Derby, 1837; Marpessa, dam of Jeremy Diddler, winner of many Races; of Evenus, winner of the Royal Hunt Cup at Ascot, and the Cambridgeshire of 1844, beating Faugh-a-ballagh and a large field; of Idas, winner of the Two Thousand, 1845; and of Boarding-school-Miss, who bred Typee, Omco, Fayaway, Peter Wilkins, and Rosa Bonheur. The writer of this notice well remembers what an enthusiastic admirer of racing the Admiral was when only Captain Rous; for on the Monday before the Derby, in Phosphorus' year, when riding to Epsom, he overtook Captain Rous—who was himself *en route* to take up his quarters in the neighbourhood of the Surrey Hills—a little beyond Vauxhall Suspension Bridge, and not knowing the exact turning to take he enquired of him the way, when he received the off-handed reply of the "salt," "I am going there myself, and we can ride together." Racing, and the Derby in particular, as may be supposed, was the principal topic of conversation, when, expatiating on the merits of Caravan, then a tremendous favourite for the "Blue Riband," it fell from the Captain that he had been owned by his brother, and sold to Lord Suffield, the writer at once became aware who his pleasant companion was; and having thus received his first, if not his best, Derby "tip," was not slow to make use of it, to his cost, for that fine horse suffered defeat in a quarter little expected. The writer being on horseback saw both the start—which then took place at the back of the hill—and the finish. Phosphorus, who was suffering from navicular disease, was the first to reach the starting-post, so lame that he could hardly put one leg before another, but Edwards nevertheless clapped into him and sent him a strong gallop as far as the furzes, which he again repeated, and being thus warmed up he got away on good terms with his opponents, and being nursed for a final effort by his masterly jockey, he challenged Caravan, who till then held the lead, opposite the stand, dropping upon Arthur Pavis as if out of the sky, and so paralysing him, owing to the immense stake—the rumour of the day was £20,000—he stood to win on his mount, that the reins almost dropped from his hands, and Lord Berners' Phosphorus, about whom 40 to 1 went a-begging, was hailed the winner of the Derby.

Admiral Rous's personal connection with the Turf, though, at first, necessarily on and off owing to his profession, dates as far back as 1821—when he, as well as his brother Lord Stradbroke, were made members of the Jockey Club—and being always partial to match-making, at which he showed no little aptitude from the first, he won three that year with a mare named Mœotis. His second purchase was a mare named Souvenir, in buying whom, when a yearling, for 100 gs., he displayed no little judgment; but he did not enjoy the pleasure of racing her, for in 1824, his ship being ordered to sea, he sold her to Mr. Stonehewer, who made a good thing out of her, subsequently selling her to the Earl of Sefton for 2,000 gs. Being out of commission in 1829 he purchased, for 60 gs., a colt by Little John, called Crutch, but though so named he could make good use of his legs, as out of thirteen matches in which he was engaged he won eleven, and ran a dead heat for the twelfth. This horse, whose best distance was the T.Y.C., he subsequently sold for 500 gs. His string of horses about this time comprised

(Continued on page 18.)

Music.

Music intended for notice in the "Monthly Review of New Music," in the last Saturday of each month, must be sent on or before the previous Saturday.

Benefit Concerts will not (as a rule) be noticed, unless previously advertised in our columns.

INTRODUCTORY.

In a journal, largely identified with the Drama, considerable prominence must necessarily be given to Music; which has been one of the most attractive adjuncts of the Drama from the dawn of dramatic history to the present day. It will not be necessary to establish this fact by references to the classic lore of Greece and Rome. We need only turn to the plays of Shakspeare. Who can think of *Macbeth*, without recalling to mind the music of Mathew Locke? or of *As You Like It*, without remembering Arne's 'Under the Greenwood Tree,' or of the *Tempest* without thinking of his 'Where the Bee Sucks.' Who that has once heard Mendelssohn's fairy-like, exquisite music to the *Midsummer Night's Dream*, would willingly hear the play without that music?

The Operatic Drama may, in some respects, claim to be the highest form of the dramatic art.

A dramatic tragedian, when he has learned the words of his part, is left to his own discretion as to the tones of voice, the pauses, emphases and inflections to be employed. The operatic tragedian, on the other hand, must not only learn the words of his part, but must commit to memory a prodigious number of notes:—must, in the very whirlwind of his passion, remember not only those notes, but the notes of other performers with whom he sings in concerted music;—must watch the conductor's *bâton*, and regulate his utterances by his beat;—must count the bars and fractions of bars during "rests"; and remember "cues" to be given by various instruments in the orchestra.

The mental effort in the latter case is evidently doubled;—and the operatic tragedian who, under these disadvantages, can display the highest dramatic qualities, may fairly boast himself the superior of the purely dramatic tragedian. That such instances have existed cannot be disputed. No tragic acting since the world began has ever surpassed the Marino Faliero of Lablache, or the Norma of Grisi,—and although these may be rare instances, they are not the only ones. We refrain from further discussion of this part of our subject, but we take this opportunity to say that the Operatic Drama will receive our careful attention; and we believe that the sources of information at our command will render our operatic notices interesting to the profession as well as to the public.

English Opera has recently suffered a severe, though not an irreparable blow, in the decease of Madame Parepa Rosa, and the consequent abandonment, for the present, of the proposed English Opera season at Drury Lane. It must be remembered that Madame Rosa's health precluded her, last autumn, from forming part of M. Carl Rosa's company, which was the strongest combination ever seen in the provinces; and that, without her aid, that company achieved a brilliant artistic and pecuniary success. It is to be hoped that, after a few months' repose, M. Carl Rosa may resume his career as a highly successful operatic director. For the present, English Opera finds a temporary home at the Crystal Palace; and we shall, as often as possible, give notices of the operas which, thanks to the spirited enterprise of Mr. Wilkinson, and the energetic zeal of Mr. Manns, will be performed at Sydenham. We hope to see the time when in London, as in every other civilised metropolis, a home will be found for native opera,—and we shall do our best to accelerate a consummation so "devoutly to be wished."

But it is not to operatic music alone that our attention will be devoted. It will be our duty to notice the performances of a number of societies and musical institutions, most of which have special characteristics. Thus, the fine orchestral performances at the Crystal Palace Saturday Concerts,—the equally admirable concerts of the British Orchestral Society,—the exquisite chamber music of the Monday (and Saturday) popular concerts,—the oratorio performances of the Sacred Harmonic and the Albert Hall Choral Societies,—the classic performances of the Philharmonic and the New Philharmonic Societies,—the London Ballad Concerts,—the interesting concerts of M. Gounod, and the somewhat vague efforts of the enthusiastic Wagner Society, will each obtain occasional notice.

Of Benefit Concerts the name is legion. As a general rule, we shall abstain from giving notices of concerts to which the attention of our subscribers has not been previously invited, through the medium of our advertising columns. Exceptions to this rule will only be made in the case of concerts which possess interesting artistic features. We do not intend to inflict upon our readers a *resumé* of the common-place programmes usually provided at benefit concerts; and we shall strive to elevate the standard of taste by which they have too long been regulated.

To New Musical Publications we shall pay particular attention; and, in a "Monthly Review of New Music," which will appear on the last Saturday of each month, we shall criticise recent publications. We trust that our Monthly Review will ere long be accepted as an honest and trustworthy guide in the choice of new music.

In treating these and kindred matters, we shall strive to advance the cause of art and the true interests of artists; and it seems to us that the best mode of attaining these objects will be to speak the truth, regardless of fear or favour. Timid and partial criticism are alike prejudicial to art and artists, and many an aspirant has been flattered into conceit and failure, who might have been saved from shipwreck had he been truthfully and kindly warned of his failings.

But, while we desire to show kind consideration to artists, we must also remember our duty to the public. We trust that the high tone of this journal will be sufficient guarantee that its critical rebuke can never assume the guise of harshness or personality; but, so far as we can do so within the limits of decorum, we shall always expose pretentiousness and incompetency. We shall find still greater pleasure in the recognition of merit. And, whether dispensing praise or censure, we shall cherish the belief that criticism which is thoughtful, considerate, and dispassionate, but above all

honest and fearless, is the only kind of criticism which will, in the long run, secure lasting respect and confidence.

In next week's number we shall have opportunities of showing the practical development of these theories, in our critical notices of the music of the week.

Musical Intelligence.

THE Crystal Palace Operas will be recommenced March 17, when Sir Julius Benedict's *Lily of Killarney* will be performed.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh are expected to be present at the next concert (26th of March) of the British Orchestral Society, of which Society His Royal Highness is patron.

The stage management of the Royal Italian Opera will this season be entrusted to M. Desplaces and Mr. Charles Harris, son of the late lamented Augustus Harris.

La Serva Padrona, the famous one-act comic opera by Pergolesi, which has not been performed in England during the last sixty years, will be produced, with the original text, at a London theatre in April next.

Wallace's *Maritima* has been translated into Italian by Signor Zaffira, the recitatives being set to music by Signor Tito Mattei. It is expected that the title character will be played by Madame Adelina Patti, who went twice to hear it performed by the National Opera Company at St. James's Theatre in 1871, and expressed herself delighted with the work.

Miss Edith Wynne will leave England April 11, to fulfil an engagement in the United States.

Miss Sterling, the American contralto, is said to possess remarkable qualifications as a spiritual "medium."

Her Majesty's Opera at Drury Lane will open March 17. The Royal Italian Opera at Covent Garden will open March 31.

Musical Memoranda.

SATURDAY (this day).—*Crystal Palace Concert* at 3 P.M. Vocalists, Madame Lemmens Sherrington and Mr. Bentham (his first appearance since his return from Italy). Miss Emma Barnett, sister and pupil of Mr. J. F. Barnett, will make her first appearance as a pianiste. *Saturday Popular Concert*, St. James's Hall, at 3 P.M. Madame Carreno-Sauret, MM. Joachim, Ries, Straus, and Piatti. Vocalist, Miss A. Williams. Conductor, Sir Julius Benedict.

MONDAY.—*Monday Popular Concert*, St. James's Hall. MM. Dannreuther, Joachim, Ries, Straus, Zerbini, and Piatti. Vocalist, Mr. Bentham. *Mdlle. Enquist's Concert*, St. George's Hall, at 8.30. *Signor Monari-Rocca's Benefit* performance of Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, St. James's Theatre, at 8.

WEDNESDAY.—*London Ballad Concert*, St. James's Hall. Mdlles. A. Williams and Sterling, MM. Vernon Rigby, Fox, and Guy, and the London Vocal Union. Pianoforte, Mr. Sidney Smith. Conductors, MM. J. L. Hatton and Meyer Lutz.

THURSDAY.—*Albert Hall Choral Society's* performance of *St. Paul*. Madame Alysleben, Miss Sterling, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Lewis Thomas. Organist, Dr. Stainer. Conductor, Mr. Barnby.

SATURDAY, March 7.—*Saturday Popular Concert*, St. James's Hall, at 3 P.M. *Crystal Palace Concert* at 3 P.M. *M. Gounod's Choir*, St. James's Hall, at 8. *Amateur Orchestral Society's Private Concert*, Albert Hall, at 8.30.

MR. TOOLE will leave England for the United States next August.

THE first morning performance of *Philip* at the Lyceum takes place this (Saturday) afternoon.

MR. MAPLESON commences his Italian Opera Season at Drury Lane, on Tuesday fortnight the 17th March.

THE old melodrama of *Elizabeth, or the Exiles of Siberia*, is to be revived next Saturday at the Adelphi Theatre.

MISS LIZZIE ANDERSON, daughter of the late Wizard of the North, has written to a contemporary announcing the intention of herself and other members of the family to dispute their father's will.

MR. GILBERT's comedy of *Charity* will be withdrawn at the Haymarket Theatre on Saturday week, the 19th of March, to be succeeded on the following Monday by a new comedy in three acts, by Mr. George Godfrey, under the title of *Queen Mab*.

THE Paris journal *Le Soir*, which belonged to the late Mr. Merton, was put up for sale on Monday at the office of M. Megret, avoué, at the upset price of 100,000*fr.* No advance having been made, the disposal of that property was postponed to a future day.

AN ACTOR KILLED.—The leading comedian at the Bijou Theatre, Paignton, Mr. Harry Clifford, was killed on Tuesday last. He was leaning over the banisters at the head of a flight of stairs when he fell forwards, and, alighting on his head, broke his neck. This is the second time within this season that performances at this theatre have had to be stopped on account of the tragic end of one of the chief actors.

THE THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN.—We have just received information (by Telegraph) that the Theatre Royal, Dublin, which has for so many years been successfully conducted by Mr. Harris, has been sold by that gentleman to an English purchaser, and that the management will be for the present in the hands of the Messrs. Gunn, of the New Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

THE other night, Mr. G. Belmore appeared at Chelsea in a somewhat new character, that of a reader, when, it is scarcely necessary to say, his success was complete. We feel confident there are admirers of Mr. Belmore elsewhere than in the neighbourhood of the Vestry Hall, King's Road, who would be glad to be made acquainted with his realisation of Dickens's *Christmas Carol*.

WE have great pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to Mr. S. Hayes's Annual Morning Performance, which is fixed to take place at the Opera Comique, on the 4th prox. The programme includes *The First Night*, the balcony scene and duet from *Geneviève de Brabant*, and *The Pretty Horsebreaker*. Mr. Toole, Mr. Brough, Miss E. Farren, and Miss Emily Soldene, have, with other distinguished artists, lent their names to the bill. Stage manager: Mr. R. Soutar. Mr. Hayes's courtesy, as exemplified 'in front of the house' at the Gaiety, and latterly at the Opera Comique,—to say nothing of Lord's,—is well known, and deserves to be rewarded by a crowded house.

MR. GEORGE HONEY's first appearance in Belfast (as 'Major Buncombe' in *For Love or Money*, and 'King Turko') has provoked from the local press some amusingly naïve admissions of

his rare talents. One critic pronounces "his style of acting entirely his own;" another declares that he "sings with a richness of tone and artistic execution that astonishes the audience;" and a third "ventures to say that he is perfectly able to attract large provincial audiences." This is cheering—for Mr. Honey. It is years since he took the town: there would now appear to be some reasonable hope of his winning fame in hitherto unexplored parts of the provinces.

Two cases, interesting to members of the Profession, were heard at the Westminster County Court on Friday week. In the first, Mr. E. W. Garden sought to recover 50*l.* from Mr. H. J. Montague for breach of contract. The plaintiff stated that his engagement at the Globe was to play low comedy parts only at "Play-house pay," but he declined to play second low comedy except to Mr. Compton. He refused to play the part of 'Rob the Grinder' in *Heart's Delight*, as it was a general utility part. His salary was 5*l.* per week, while a utility man could be had for less than 2*l.* a week. Mr. Palmer, Mr. Kelly, and Mr. George W. Anson considered the part fit only for a utility man; but Mr. Horace Wigan considered it to be suited for a second low comedian. Mr. Montague Williams called Mr. H. J. Montague, who said he thought the plaintiff the best person to play the part in question, and asked the author to write it up for him. Mr. Garden refused because it was not first low comedy, but he was so anxious to aid him that he said he would have the piece written up for him, and increase his salary 1*l.* a week. Mr. Sam Emery considered the part decidedly a low comedy one, and remonstrated with the plaintiff when he refused to play it. Mr. Andrew Halliday said the part in question was a very good one, and was intended for the plaintiff. His Honour said that the judgment must be for the defendant, as the agreement was to play low comedy, which included both first and second low comedy, and from Mr. Wigan's evidence, which was conclusive, he thought the plaintiff's contention had not been established. Judgment accordingly.—The second case was that of Garden, Sen. v. Montague. The plaintiff, who was engaged to play first old man's parts, sought to recover 50*l.* for breach of agreement. Plaintiff made an agreement with the defendant for three months as principal old man for 4*l.* a week, but subsequently resigned his engagement, because the part given him ('Jack Bunsby') was unsuitable. After evidence had been called on both sides, judgment was given for the defendant.

THE Eighteenth Anniversary Festival of the Dramatic, Equestrian, and Musical Sick Fund Association was held at Willis's Rooms on Ash Wednesday, and has therefore almost passed out of the domain of news into that of history: nevertheless, if only as an excuse for quoting a portion of Mrs. Sterling's capital speech, we are tempted to recal some of the features of the celebration. Mr. John Oxenford occupied the chair, and proposed the toast of the evening, "Success to the Fund," associating therewith the name of Mrs. Sterling, who in responding, spoke as follows:—"I feel that the strength of my demand is in my cause. (Cheers.) 'Little shall I grace my cause in speaking for myself,' Othello says; but then I am not speaking for myself; I am speaking for the charity. To be sure, in these days, when nomination speeches are put an end to, and stump speeches—thanks to the general election—are growing somewhat stale, it does seem rather hard upon me, as well as upon you, to ask me to convert my seat at this festive board into a stump, and myself into the magpie with which the stump is traditionally associated. (Cheers.) Then you know, chattering is a magpie's strong point—after stealing. I promise you, however, not to outchatter my allotted ten minutes, if you will let me wind up with a little stealing. (Laughter.) There are no spoons here, probably, except some plated ones—indeed, I doubt very much whether Mr. Willis would trust us amusing vagabonds within the reach of anything but 'property' plate. (Cheers.) However, if there should be any of the more precious metal about in the way of spoons—the ladies, they are spoons too—they may be trusted to take care of them. No, my design is not upon the spoons; like that of Mr. Odger, it is upon your sovereigns (cheers); and the more of those I can carry off and secrete in our Treasurer's strong box the better. Or shall I stand a better chance of coaxing your money out of your pockets if in these days of general election I announce myself as a candidate for your vote and interest—your interest, you observe. Candidates never seek their own. Oh, no! They are so disinterested. (Laughter.) Well, then, let it be your vote and interest for the constituency I desire to represent—the Dramatic and Musical Sick Fund. (Applause.) I own most boldly that I am most anxious to get into your hearts, and through them into your pockets. (Laughter.) I unblushingly avow that my design is to put as much into the treasury as I possibly can, and to maintain as many of my poor brothers and sisters of the Profession as I can. Mind, I will not quarter any of them upon you until I have put them through the sieve of competitive examination (laughter), the rules of which shall be that the worst off shall be the first served, that cramming shall be a disqualification, and, what I fear is not the avowed result of such examinations, that the emptiest shall be considered to have the most claims. (Loud applause and laughter.) But in my oratory as a representative I am forgetting my character as a representative woman, which means something very different indeed from the male hustling speech—it means, in fact, the most matter put into the fewest words—as women always do put it. (Laughter.) Well then, I will suppose myself elected, and where every actor wishes to be—at the treasury (laughter), with full exchequer power to bleed you until you are as low—ah!—as that eminent official phlebotomist himself. (Laughter.) My lancets are sharp, but then there is the balm of Christian purpose to comfort you under their sharpness, and the more freely you bleed the better it will be for you. Ours is the only kind of phlebotomy certain to strengthen the system. Ours is an organised charity. We do not go in for touting and letter writing, and swapping of votes. Nor do we fear, vagabonds as we are, to let in the light upon our doings, nay, even the light of a Guildhall meeting. But now to my direct attack. Of course, as our heads are all, and naturally enough, full of the Gold Coast expedition, you will not be surprised to find me starting off as a volunteer for that auriferous region—for that Tom Tiddler's ground. (Laughter.) However, I hope to pick up a good deal of your gold before I come to close quarters with King Koffee, whom I hope we shall meet in the ante-room shortly black and hot—and really I do not wonder at it. Let me take you with me then. Trust me to bring you out of the bush without one return of killed, wounded, or missing. Follow me then, I pray you, in the advance on that well-guarded capital which lies within the region of bank-notes and breeches' pockets (great laughter)—but which I hope will yield readily to my irresistible advance, as Coomassie may be expected to yield to our jewelled commander with his brave handful of red-coats and blue jackets. (Cheers.) Help our funds, then, to put our sick and wounded into as comfortable quarters as—thanks to hospital ships and sanatoriums—we hope theirs will be; and, finally, let me ask you to lay your hands—the left upon your hearts, and the right upon your purses, and let the one do the silent bidding of the other." (Cheers.) The health of the chairman was proposed by Mr. Edmund Yates, and that of Mr. B. Webster by Mr. Andrew Halliday.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

All Advertisements intended for insertion in the Saturday's issue of the "ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS," must be posted so as to arrive not later than mid-day on Thursday, addressed to "The Publisher," 9, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

Scale of Charges for Advertisements on application. Professional Advertisements taken at the rate of 20 words for three insertions, 2s. 6d.

NOTICE TO THE TRADE.

News Agents desirous of being supplied with "Contents Bills," are requested to send in their applications to "The Publisher," 9, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications intended for insertion in the "ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS," should be addressed to "The Editor," 9, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., and must be accompanied by the Writer's name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor cannot undertake to return rejected communications. Dramatic and Sporting Correspondents will oblige the Editor by placing the word "Drama" or "Sporting," as the case may be, on the corner of the envelope.

No notice will be taken of enquiries as to the time of horses being scratched for their engagements, other than appears in the usual column devoted to such information.

Any irregularities in the delivery of the paper should be immediately made known to the Publisher, at this Office.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post-free).

Yearly	£1 7 0
Half-yearly	11 0
Quarterly	7 0

All cheques and P. O. Orders to be made payable to Mr. HENRY WALLACE, 9, Wellington-street, Strand.

Cheques crossed "A. LAWRIE & Co."

Review of the Week.

WE all know that gratuitous advice is generally worthless, and in the same category we may place volunteer services, especially when they lead to such awkward complications as the following.—We read in the daily papers that Mr. Newman Hall desires to correct a misrepresentation which has been published concerning a recent entertainment at the Surrey Chapel. He says: "A paragraph has gone the round of the papers stating that prior to a religious service in Surrey Chapel the organist performed some 'Madame Angot music.' The circumstances are these:—I delivered a lecture on 'Labour' in the school room last Monday, preceded by a prayer. While the people were assembling in the chapel a gentleman, who had offered his services for the benefit of the working-class lectures (not the organist of Surrey Chapel), performed some music. I did not hear it, and if I had heard it should not have recognised it, being quite ignorant of Madame Angot." No one doubts Mr. Newman Hall when he professes his ignorance of the music of *La Fille de Madame Angot*, but would it not at least be as well in future, if he knew more of the gentlemen who are so kind in offering their services at the organ in the absence of the regular *employé*, and who are so apt to allow the love of their art to outweigh their judgment, and render them oblivious of their *locus in quo*.

A HUNDRED pounds is not picked up every day so easily as by Mr. Pleasant Hook and his confederates from the pigeon they were so lucky in catching at the Castle and Falcon Inn, Birmingham, in the person of Mr. Glendinning, when they succeeded in robbing that unwary gentleman over a catch bet as to Hermit having won the Two Thousand Guineas. The case was so transparent that there could be no doubt as to Mr. Pleasant Hook and his companions being consummate rascals, and Mr. Glendinning accordingly won his cause, though he didn't deserve it for having been such a fool as to trust himself in such company. The very name Pleasant Hook has quite a Dickensian ring about it, and had we been on the jury it would have been quite sufficient to our mind for us to have convicted the man of a swindle on the spot; but Mr. Glendinning does not appear to have been quite so sharp, and parted with his 100l. in the utmost confidence to his new-formed acquaintances, after which piece of pleasantry they naturally "hooked it," and their victim had no remedy but to apply to the courts at Westminster for redress. We wish he may get it even now—but any way it will be a lesson to him in future to be less eager to make rash bets with stray friends whom he may pick up at a tavern ordinary during a race meeting. Of course the opponents of racing will quote this as "another turf scandal," though really the doings of such ruffians as these have no more connection with the morality or otherwise of the sport of which they are the hangers-on than Tenterden Steeple with Goodwin Sands; and people who cry aloud for the suppression of racing on the faith of such incidents might just as well advocate the disestablishment of the Church on the ground that they have had their pockets picked in the Whispering Gallery of St. Paul's; but with some people you have only got to give a dog an ill name and hang him, and there can be no doubt but that Mr. Pleasant Hook will furnish the text from which many of the "unco' guid" will take up their parable for many a long day to come.

WHATEVER faults or shortcomings may be charged against the English people by foreign critics, it is quite certain that want of charity and generosity can never be included among the number. *Perfidie Albion* may be *perfidie*, but even her enemies will be prepared to admit that no matter from what quarter of the world comes the cry of woe, she is always ready with her cheque-book as the surest "solatium" for most of the ills that flesh is heir to. At the meeting held the other day at the Mansion House in aid of the Bengal Famine Fund it was announced that the subscriptions already amounted to no less than 16,797l., a goodly sum, even for so rich a city as London, to set aside for one specific object, and 10,000l. of which sum had already been forwarded to Calcutta, with a promptitude which is worthy of all praise. Surely, when the sins of the modern Babylon come to be written up against her at the last day, the sums she has lavished upon suffering humanity may be placed to the credit side of her account, and possibly she may not be found altogether wanting.

How many men are there not in the world who are perpetually looking, like Mr. Micawber, for something to turn up, who have made some failure or other, and are always wanting what they term a "fresh start" in life. Let such men read the veracious history of John Sweeney, a ragged ruffian who was brought up at Worship Street the other

day, charged with being drunk and disorderly, when the following dialogue took place between him and the magistrate:—Mr. Hannay (to prisoner): "What do you wish to say to me?"—Prisoner: "Why, look here, sir, I've tried a good many fakements in life, and had a good start in the cough-drop line. But that fell off, and now I'm about the public-houses giving recitations. I can give you one if you like" (laughter).—Mr. Hannay: "But you'll end your days in a lunatic asylum if you act in this strange way about the streets."—Prisoner: "I was in Colney Hatch for twelve months, but they said there was nothing the matter with me. They turned me out of Coldbath-fields on Saturday, and this was the pair of boots (taking off one) they gave me in a Christian country. I asked the magistrate at the prison to give me a sov. for a fresh start, but he would not."—Mr. Hannay: "You are not to go about in this way."—Prisoner: "Look here, sir; let me speak as well as you, although you are a magistrate. You have the power to help a man, and if you will give me something out of the poor-box for a fresh start I'll go away."—Mr. Hannay: "I don't wish to send you to prison, but if you behave in this way you will certainly be locked up for life in prison or in an asylum. I'll let you go now, but you must not come here any more."—Prisoner: "Very well. I won't if I can help it."—He then left the court. Cough-drops and recitations at public-houses are slightly incongruous, even as "fakements," and no doubt even a "fresh start" from a poor-box would be preferable to either, but it is astonishing how little one half of the world knows how the other lives when such extraordinary creatures are daily brought up for wholesome correction at our Police Courts, and perhaps after all they are no worse than their better dressed brethren who get up limited liability companies, tout for wine-merchants, start new clubs, sell guano, write tracts, or in fact do anything for the sake of getting what this poor devil had no doubt often had, and as often lost, but what he wanted nevertheless as ardently as ever—a "fresh start" in life. Or was he a humbug altogether? For the sake of his better-dressed brethren we refrain from pursuing the enquiry.

LOOKING back to our school days, how well we remember the type of schoolboy, who, when defeated in any game, was wont to throw down his bat or top in disgust, and exclaim "I shan't play any more." Men, however, are but children of a larger growth, so we are taught, and Mr. Gladstone is the latest exemplar of the adage. Since the verdict of the country has driven him into the obscurity of opposition, we hear a rumour that he is anxious to resign the leadership of the Liberal party and retire into private life, and already the public papers are occupying themselves with speculations as to his probable successor. Mr. Gladstone, in effect, has been beaten in the game of politics, and oblivious of the past smiles of Fortune, and unable to waive his personal feelings for the good of his party or the nation at large, sulks and says, "I shan't play any more." If such a determination on his part has done no other good, it must have revealed to the eyes, even of the most ardent Liberals, the unwelcome truth as to the utter weakness of their own ranks, when there can be talk of his mantle falling on such men as Mr. Forster, Sir W. Harcourt, and Lord Hartington. Good men as they may be in their places, the Liberal party must indeed be on its last legs when it can find no better leaders, and if ever man could have said with truth "*L'état c'est moi*," it would have been Mr. Gladstone, when in the plenitude of power he must have looked round on his ragged following, and reflected how if he abandoned them, they would have become as sheep without a shepherd. It seems now that we are to be treated, as far as the Liberals are concerned, to the play of Hamlet with the part of Hamlet omitted, the majority of the party being pledged to Mr. Gladstone's policy, while the exponent of that policy himself has, like a well-graced actor, left the scene, and at the same time left his supporters to shift for themselves.

THE destruction of the Pantechnicon seems to have opened people's eyes to the fact that fire-proof buildings, so called, are nothing more nor less than fire-traps, and that they could not afford a better bonfire when filled with valuable property, and properly ignited, if they were thatched barns instead of as they mostly are, costly erections of iron, stone and concrete. Captain Shaw, the Superintendent of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, has taken advantage of the opportunity to write to the *Times* giving the particulars of certain experiments which he has caused to be made, and after detailing the same, adds—

"The lesson to be drawn from this I take to be as follows:—

"A massive story-post of even the most inflammable wood is absolutely and perfectly proof against any heat which can be applied to it, will not of itself burn at all, but requires a continual supply of highly inflammable substances to keep it burning, and, when this supply is withdrawn, ceases to burn; and, lastly, after being exposed for seven hours to flames of very great intensity, is not injured to a greater depth than about two inches from the original outer surface, and still shows a centre as clean and fresh as when it was put in.

"There may be other materials suitable for this purpose which are capable of resisting the effects of heat; and, if so, I hope we may one day hear of them; but in the meanwhile I venture to submit what I consider to be strong practical testimony in favour of massive timber for the internal supports of heavily loaded buildings."

Verily there is nothing new under the sun, and it will no doubt considerably add to the feeling of comfort and security at present enjoyed by dwellers in some of the old and picturesque country houses of England to know that their habitations are in the opinion of one of our most competent judges infinitely more fire-proof than if constructed from the latest designs of modern architects. In the battle of Iron v. Wood, the former seems to be getting decidedly the worst of it. Many a gallant old wooden frigate is still afloat, while several of our modern ironclads have had to be broken up for old metal; and just as our scientific writers are beginning to lament the wholesale destruction of forests all over the world, we shall begin to awake to the value of timber.

WHEN the tree begins to die at the top, there is usually something wrong with the roots. We do not say that this

is an infallible rule, or that it specially applies in the instance under observation. However, facts are stubborn things, and it is at least curious that death should have lately shown himself so busy among the Roman Hierarchy. Only lately the decease of two Cardinals has been reported. Cardinal Antonelli has been so ill, that the Pontiff himself thought it expedient to administer to him extreme unction. Another Cardinal—Barnabo—is reported to be in a dying condition, and we now read in the *Popolo Romano* that Cardinal Antonelli has sent a circular to all Catholic Bishops advising them to come to Rome, as the Pope wishes to see them before he dies. All this is very lamentable for good Catholics to contemplate, and if the epidemic in the Sacred College continues, hats are likely to be quoted at a premium. Meanwhile there are those in our own communion who still believe that a few years hence will see the English Church disestablished and disendowed, gone to its last account "unhoused, unannealed, with all its imperfections on its head," and to whom the premature decease of the Primate and one or two of the Episcopal Bench would cause not the slightest uneasiness or even regret. People of a similar turn of mind to that of the late member for Bradford, may be glad to hear however on the best authority that there is no demand whatever just at present for shovel hats, aprons and gaiters, and that all our Bishops are exceptionally healthy.

A MAN named Kelly has, within the last few days, been apprehended on a charge of attempting to murder his brother, and also stabbing a man named Davis, who interfered to prevent his committing fratricide, in six or seven places. We read that at the preliminary examination at Clerkenwell Police Court, "In the course of the proceedings the prisoner said he was very sorry that Davis was in the way on Saturday night, and he added that there were discrepancies in the evidence, but he would pass that over till a future period." Probably Mr. Davis was equally sorry that he was in the way, but we may venture to hope that whatever discrepancies there may be in the evidence, there will be none of sufficient importance to stand in the way of this precious rascal suffering the full penalty prescribed by the law for his offence.

Rowing.

THE doings of the University Eights are, as usual at this period of the year, beginning to attract a considerable amount of attention in aquatic circles, and when the crews go out to take their daily exercise, the banks of both the Cam and Isis are generally pretty fairly sprinkled with spectators, notwithstanding the keenness of the weather, which during the last few days has been anything but favourable to the personal comfort of the 'longshore critics. The respective crews are now pretty well decided upon, though it is possible that there may be some further changes resulting from the casualties of training, in view of which reserve fours are in steady practice.

The Oxford crew, as at present constituted, is as follows:

	st lb		st lb
H. J. Stayner, St. John's (bow)	12 4½	6. A. W. Nicholson, Magdalen	12 13½
2. J. S. Sinclair, Oriel	11 11	7. C. H. Keable, Wadham	12 8
3. M. G. Farrer, B.N.C.	12 10	H. M'D. Courtney, Pembroke (stroke)	11 1½
4. A. R. Harding, Merton	11 11½	P. S. Smith, Univ. (cox.)	7 2
5. J. W. Williams, Lincoln	12 13		

from which it will be seen that the average weight is high. Although there is still considerable room for improvement, the rowing is very fair, and in our opinion those gentlemen who are in such a hurry to lay the extravagant odds of 2 to 1 on the Light Blue will see reason before the day to modify their transports and possibly be prepared to admit that the race is not altogether the foregone conclusion for last year's winners that they would wish to make it appear thus early. The Oxford Eight has been steadily coached from horseback by Mr. Darbishire, and in his absence by Mr. Daniell, and it may be relied upon that no stone will be left unturned to send up a crew to Putney worthy of the Dark Blue. In all probability they will not leave Oxford so soon as usual, but will delay their appearance on the Metropolitan waters for a longer period than has been customary of late years.

The Cambridge crew is as follows:—

	st lb		st lb
Hibbert, Lady Margaret (bow)		5. Lecky-Browne, Jesus	
2. Armistage, Jesus		6. Read, First Trinity	
3. Peabody, First Trinity		7. Close, First Trinity	
4. Aylmer, First Trinity		Rhodes, Jesus (stroke)	
		Candy, Caius (cox.)	

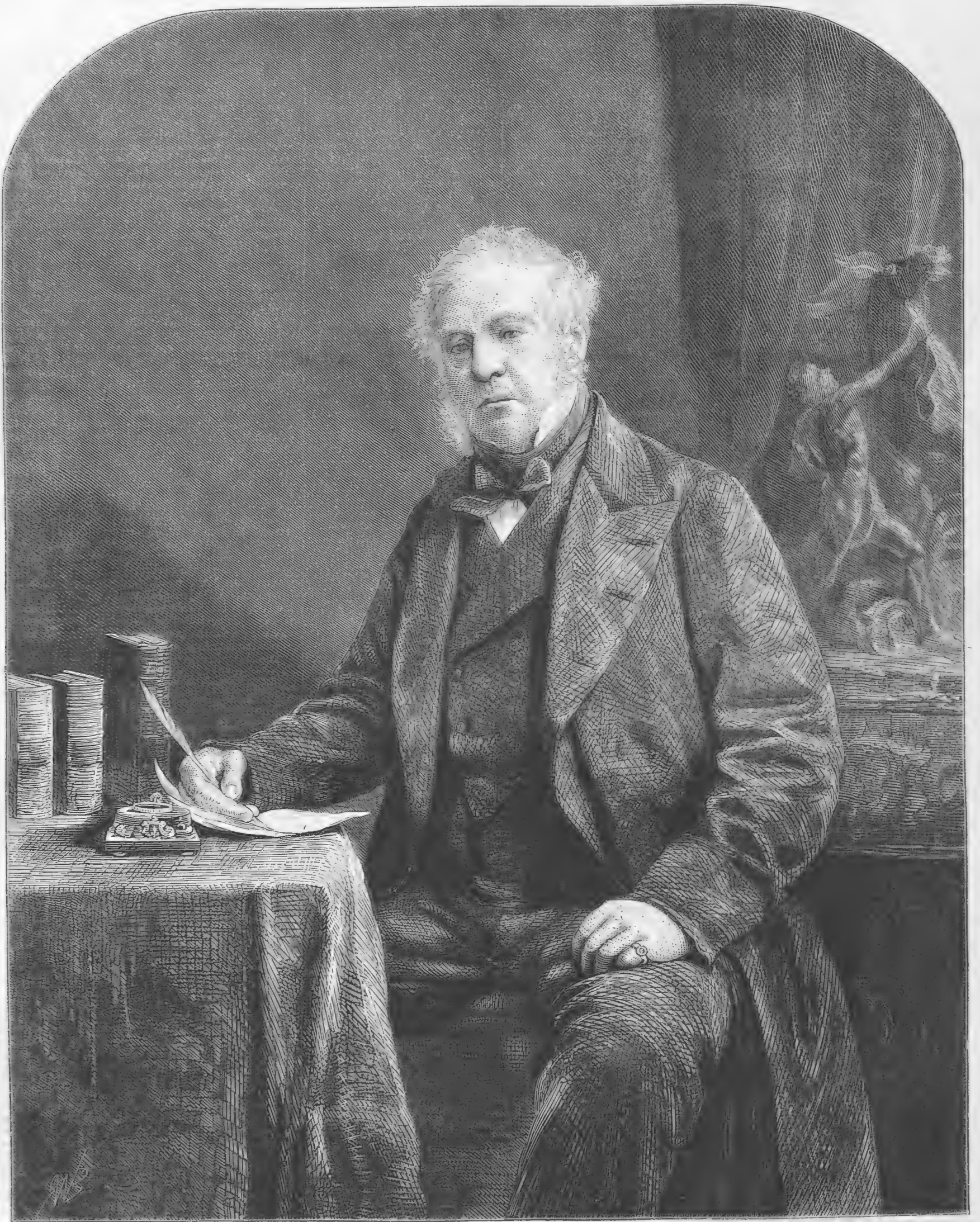
but their weights have not been as yet made public. The stroke seems still too short, but taken as a whole the ship is tolerably well together, and considering the perpetual changes that have been made in the crew, we see no reason to complain of the form they have hitherto shown. They have been coached from horseback by Mr. Goldie and Mr. Lowe, and there can be no reason so far for the Cantabs to be dissatisfied with the selection of their champions.

Next week we shall give a detailed report of the doings of both crews; but for the present it is full early to attempt to express any opinion on their comparative merits. They are both in strict training and take their usual spins over the long course down to Abingdon Lasher and Baitbite respectively, a course of practice which will soon find out the weak places, and at the same time develop the sterling metal of which the Eights are composed.

WINES AND SPIRITS (Foreign) on which Duty was paid in London by some of the principal Firms during the past year.

WINES (Foreign).	Gallons.	SPIRITS (Foreign).	Gallons.
W. & A. Gilbey	800,690	W. & A. Gilbey	306,504
Dingwall, Portal, & Co.	142,949	Twiss & Browning	186,558
F. W. Cosens	133,424	Daniel Taylor & Sons	177,500
Cunliffe & Co.	124,513	Trower and Lawson	151,924
R. Hooper & Sons	115,837	Dingwall, Portal, & Co.	131,560
Davy & Co.	101,933	R. Hooper & Sons	99,139
Daniel Taylor & Sons	98,750	Galbraith, Grant, & Co.	78,954
G. A. Haig & Co.	86,038	E. S. Pick & Co.	66,486
Dent, Urwick, & Co.	84,574	R. Burnett & Sons	66,448
J. Allnutt jun., & Co.	84,218	Daun & Vallentin	54,250
P. Domecq & Co.	84,063	Osmond & Co.	53,410
Brooks & Oldham	79,296	J. Allnutt jun., & Co.	45,139
R. Christie & Welch	76,492	Hills & Underwood	44,705
Max Greger & Co.	73,237	Fulcher & Robinson	43,886
Wolf and Stern	71,044	Bisquit, Dubouché, & Co.	43,383

Besides the preceding there were upwards of 2000 Firms who paid Duty on Wines and Spirits in less quantities than those above mentioned.—*The Trade Review*, 15th January, 1874.



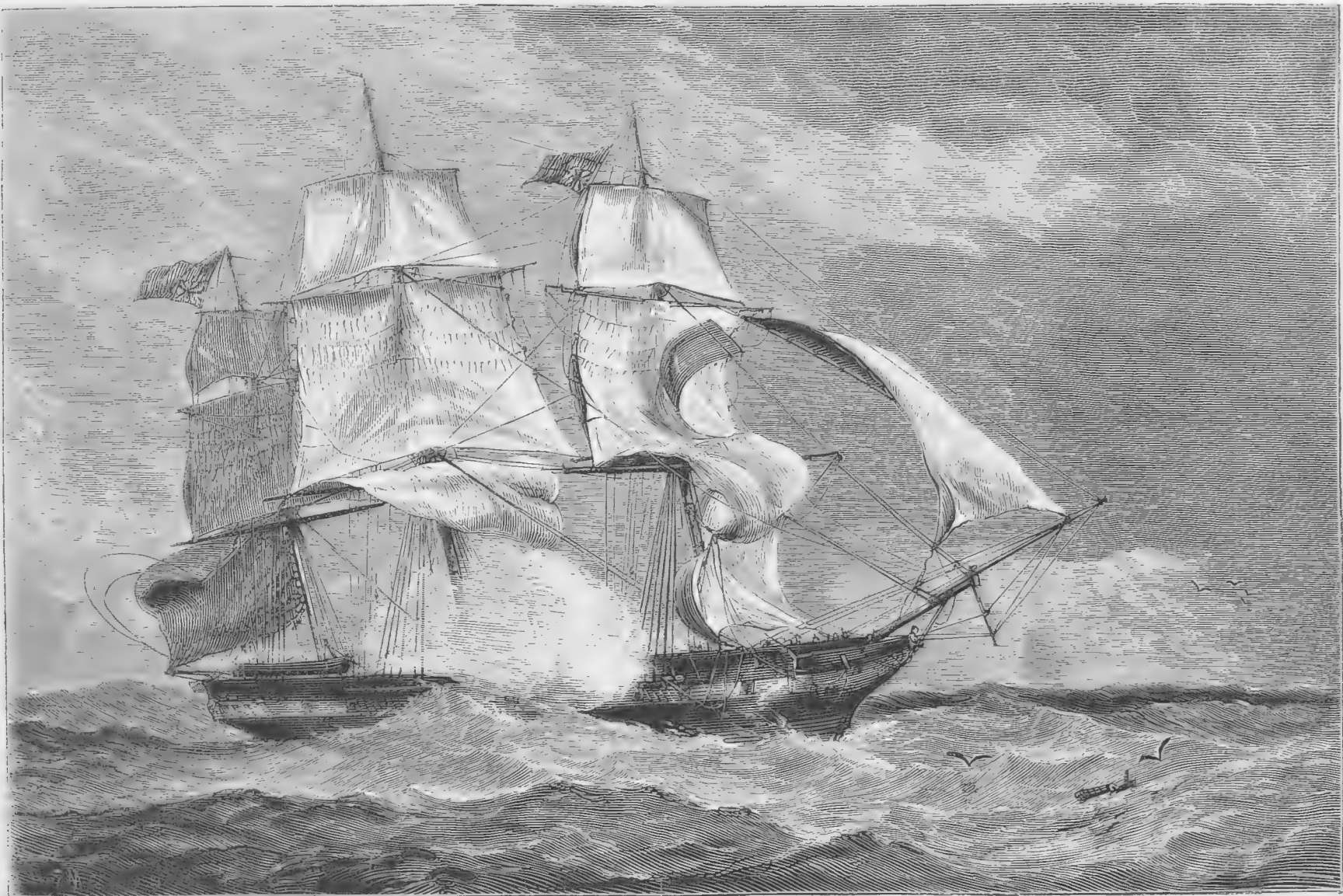
ADMIRAL THE HON. HENRY JOHN ROUS.

(Drawn by W. R. BUCKMAN, from a Photograph by Messrs. FRADELLE & MARSHALL.)

Lioness, Earwig, Squirrel, Langolee, Nicholas, Fox, and Lady Eleanor, all of whom were winners, chiefly in matches at Newmarket. In 1838 he was called to a high place in the administrative councils of the turf, being chosen a steward of the Jockey Club, an office to which he has been since several times elected, and which he has filled with general satisfaction for the last fifteen years, such being the patience and care taken by him in examining the

knotty cases of dispute brought before him, that few of his awards have ever been called in question. In 1840 he became the confederate of the Duke of Bedford, the sole management of whose horses in training at Newmarket he retained until his Grace's decease in 1864. For the Duke he won many races, as may be seen by reference to the *Calendars*; but nevertheless, his Grace's career on the turf, for a nobleman who bred so largely,

was not by any means brilliant, as none of the great races fell to any of the horses bred by him. This was, in a great measure, owing to the little care he bestowed on their breeding, the Duke fancying that one sire was as good as another; and although possessed of such immense wealth that it mattered little to him whether he paid £5 or £100 for the services of a horse, he, like too many others, was parsimonious in that respect, as he generally



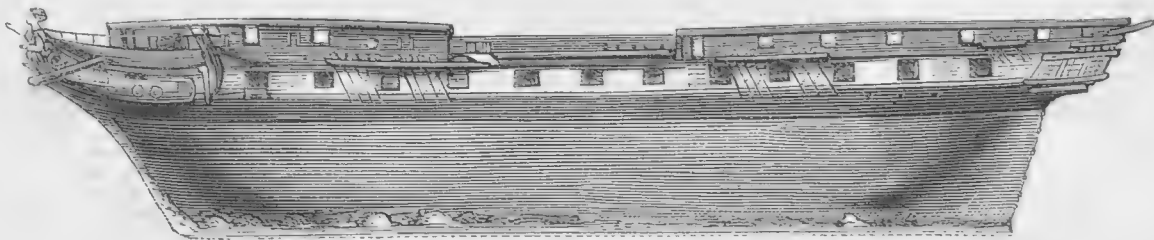
H.M.S. 'PIQUE,' UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE HON. CAPTAIN ROUS, FIRING SIGNALS OF DISTRESS.

(Drawn by Capt. MAY, from a Sketch lent by Admiral Rous.)

made it a rule to send his mares to moderate-priced sires. This would indeed have been all changed had the Duke lived, for, seeing the error of his ways, he commenced breeding from Stockwell, King Tom, and Kingston; and it was at the auction of his Grace's horses, on his decease, that Sir Joseph Hawley purchased that good horse Asteroid. The horses with whose successes his Grace's name was associated during the Admiral's management are far too

numerous to recapitulate, but of all he bred Oakeley was his favourite, and the many matches he won with him, particularly those in which he beat Lord Exeter's Celia, still dwell in the memories of the frequenters of Newmarket Heath in those days. In concluding this short notice of a gentleman who has so long been prominently before the public, we cannot do better than extract from *Baily* the opinion there expressed of the character of the services

rendered by Admiral Rous as steward of the Jockey Club by the writer whom we have before quoted, and by whom it is so well and happily put: "As a handicapper it may, without flattery, be said that of modern years none but himself has been his parallel, and recent Cesarewitches and Cambridgeshires, as well as Nurserys, will at once put at rest any carping at this fact. Whether from his long acquaintance with Newmarket he is better able to



HULL OF H.M.S. 'PIQUE,' AS SHE APPEARED IN PORTSMOUTH DOCKYARD, SHOWING THE DAMAGE SUSTAINED ON THE REEF.

handicap there than in the country it is difficult to say, but he certainly brings horses closer on that famous heath than elsewhere, and his calculation of horses' performances must be something miraculous when it is considered that in the Second October and Houghton Meetings he is frequently called upon to handicap from forty to one hundred and twenty horses between a quarter past six and dinner. To all horse owners it is absurd to think he could give satisfaction, but in the main it must be admitted his penicillings are well received, while his position negatives the idea of his being influenced by any corrupt motives."

In addition to the above handicaps, those of Ascot, Epsom, Doncaster, Goodwood, Brighton, Bedford, Chelmsford, Bath, Egham, Hampton, Oxford, Reading, Stamford, and Salisbury are all prepared by him, a task which must be conceded to involve no ordinary amount of trouble and time, and which was never before attempted by any of his predecessors or contemporaries. But we have not yet done with the narrative of his labours, inasmuch as at the com-

mencement of every year he gets up his free handicaps for Newmarket, and in the first three months of every year he often weights no fewer than one thousand horses to run on eight different courses in free handicaps, all of which generally obtain the required number of acceptances. Works of this nature, which show how deeply implanted in him must be his love of the turf, we fear are not so much appreciated as they deserve; and although stakes after his name have been got up at some few meetings, if ever in this testimonial age any man deserved a measure of the gratitude of the sportsmen of England, it is the subject of this sketch. As a turf reformer, Admiral Rous, if not so violent and precipitate as the late Lord George Bentinck, is slow and sure, considering perhaps wisely that a conciliatory policy with those whose co-operation it is necessary to secure is the best for him to adopt. Hence if his correction of acknowledged abuses does not keep pace with public desire and expectation, it should be recollected that he is not the *imperium in imperio* at

Newmarket, and that the Cabinet of the Jockey Club are as frequently divided in matters of importance to the turf as that of Her Majesty in Downing-street on the political questions of the day. His "Handbook on the Laws of Racing" has long been accepted as the Blackstone of the turf, while the eminent judge of that name never had a quarter of the puzzling disputes to decide that have come under his notice. If, perhaps, his manner may be said to savour too much of the quarter-deck, it should not be forgotten he was brought up in a school where "to hear was to obey," and where discipline was not as in the present day a misnomer. But his unsullied honour, kind-hearted disposition, and matchless abilities, will go far to atone for any shortcomings in this respect; and his successor, whoever he may be, will be fortunate if he preserve to one half the extent the popularity which Admiral Rous has enjoyed for the last quarter of a century among all classes of the racing community, and which has rendered his name a "household word."

Military and Naval Gazette.

ADMIRALTY, FEBRUARY 17.

The following promotions have been this day made:—
Lieuts. Charles Sheldon Pearce Woodruffe, William George Scott and Martin Julius Dunlop to be Commanders in Her Majesty's Fleet. Sub-Lieuts. Edward Piteaim Jones, Arthur Dove, Ernest Chamberlain Hobkirk, Charles Henry Sheffield Pretman, James Frederick Bedford, William Crichton Stuart Hathorn, Barrington Henry Chevallier, Lord Francis Horace Pierrepont Cecil, Randolph Frank Ollive Foot and Lewis Dod Sampson, to be Lieuts. in Her Majesty's Fleet.

In accordance with the provisions of Her Majesty's Order in Council of the 22nd of February, 1870,—

Lieut. Lord William Brook Phipps has been this day placed on the Retired List of his rank; Staff Commander Dover Farrant has been placed on the Retired List from the 14th inst.

FEBRUARY 18.

The Rev. Joseph Reed has this day been appointed Chaplain in Her Majesty's Fleet.

WAR OFFICE, PALL MALL, FEB. 20.

11th Regiment of Foot.—Lieut.-Gen. Sir Francis Seymour, C.B., to be Col. in succession to Gen. Sir John Gaspard Le Marchant, K.C.B., G.C.M.G., deceased.

Royal Engineers.—The resignation of Lieut. Albert Eugene Dümmler's Commission, as notified in the *Gazette* of the 19th of December, 1873, is cancelled; Lieut. Albert Eugene Dümmler is placed upon temporary half-pay.

BREVET.

Lieut.-Col. Felix Thackeray Haig, Royal (late Madras) Engineers, having completed the qualifying service with the rank of Lieut.-Col. to be Col.

ADMIRALTY, FEB. 20.

Andrew John Baillie, Esq., has this day been appointed a Naval Instructor in Her Majesty's Fleet.

FEBRUARY 23.

Sub-Lieut. George Henry Eden has been promoted to the rank of Lieut. in Her Majesty's Fleet, with seniority of the 4th ult., confirming a commission given by Rear-Admiral Arthur Cumming, C.B., Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's ships and vessels on the East India Station, in the death vacancy of Lieut. Cecil Molyneux Gilbert Cooper.

In accordance with the provisions of Her Majesty's Order in Council of the 3rd of March, 1873:—

Paymaster Shuldham S. C. Hill has been placed on the Retired List from the 15th inst.

WAR OFFICE, PALL-MALL, FEB. 24.

1st Regiment of Life Guards.—Francis Pym, gent., to be Sub-Lieut., in succession to Lieut. the Hon. H. Le D. Boscawen, retired.

1st Dragoon Guards.—Sub-Lieut. Jeffrey Browning Hone resigns his commission.

1st Dragoons.—Sub-Lieut. Edward Lloyd Entwistle to be Lieut., dated the 15th of May, 1872, but his commission as Lieut. in the Army to bear date the 17th of February, 1872.

8th Hussars.—Capt. James Martin McCalmont retires from the Service, receiving the value of his commission.

9th Lancers.—Capt. Henry Brooks Gaskell retires from the Service, receiving the value of his commission.

17th Lancers.—Sub-Lieut. Percy Wormald to be Lieut.

Brigade Depots.—Quartermaster W. Hodgkinson, from 7th Hussars, to be Quartermaster; Quartermaster William Fraser, from 25th Foot, to be Quartermaster; Quartermaster Thomas Lumsden, from 25th Foot, to be Quartermaster.

1st Foot.—Lieut. Charles Henry Sanford to be Capt., vice C. B. Steer, ret.

3rd Foot.—Quartermaster George Pittendrigh retires upon half-pay.

6th Foot.—Sub-Lieut. Thomas George Lumsden to be Lieut.

7th Foot.—Capt. Benjamin Stephens (not Stephen as hitherto stated) du Jardin, from half-pay, late Ceylon Rifle Regiment, to be Capt., vice W. H. Wilson, whose transfer from the 8th Foot has been cancelled.

10th Foot.—Lieut. Henry Frederick Vardon Gaiskell receives the value of an Ensigny on final transfer to the Indian Staff Corps.

18th Foot.—Lieut. Albert James Alexander Jackson to be Capt., vice J. B. Jackson, retired.

29th Foot.—Sub-Lieut. Orbell Henry Oakes to be Lieut.

31st Foot.—Lieut.-Col. and Brevet Col. Robert John Eager, C.B., retires upon full-pay under Article 8 of the Royal Warrant of the 24th of February, 1873.

34th Foot.—Lieut. James Alexander to be Capt., vice A. W. Barron, ret.

44th Foot.—Capt. Richard Rose O'Grady retires from the Service, receiving the value of his commission.

52nd Foot.—Lieut. James Johnstone to be Capt., vice W. A. F. Blakeney, retired.

69th Foot.—Lieut. Frederick Charles Blenkinsopp Coulson to be Capt., vice A. F. Terry, made supernumerary on being appointed Adjutant 5th Administrative Battalion Cheshire Rifle Volunteers. The names of the gentleman appointed to an Ensigny on the 10th of October, 1865, and promoted Lieut. on the 11th of January, 1869, are James Nugent Blackwood-Price, and not James Nugent Blackwood Price, as hitherto stated.

80th Foot.—Sub-Lieut. Legh Hoskins Master to be Lieut.

80th Foot.—Lieut.-Col. and Brevet-Col. William Boyle, C.B., retires from the Service, receiving the value of his commission.

90th Foot.—Lieut. Stephen John Stevens to be Instructor of Musketry, vice Lieut. R. Lawrence, prom.

92nd Foot.—Sub-Lieut. William Henry Dick Cunnyngham to be Lieut.

94th Foot.—Lieut. Wadham Locke retires from the Service, receiving the value of his commission.

96th Foot.—Lieut. Arthur Cadell Greenslade Leman to be Capt., vice J. Whitty, retired.

1st West India Regiment.—James Montague Spence Turner, gent., to be Sub-Lieut., vice W. H. Middlemass, whose appointment has been cancelled.

2nd West India Regiment.—Quartermaster John Bloom Harper retires upon temporary half-pay.

Staff.—Lieut.-Col. and Brevet-Col. Henry Hope Crealock, C.B., half-pay, late Particular Service, to be Deputy Quartermaster-General to the Forces serving in Ireland, vice Major and Brevet-Col. the Hon. Leicester Smyth, C.B., half-pay, late Rifle Brigade, promoted to Major-Gen.

CONTROL DEPARTMENT.

Deputy Controller Henry Bartlett, C.B., has been permitted to commute his retired pay.

Supply and Transport Sub-Department.

Deputy Commissary H. L. Ricard retires upon temporary half-pay on account of ill-health.

Act. Assist.-Commissary G. G. Bowring to be Assist.-Commissary.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Surg.-Major Edward William Young, M.D., retires upon temporary half-pay; Surg.-Major Samuel Handy Halahan, M.D., retires upon temporary half-pay.

BREVET.

Capt. and Brevet Major William Tanzia Savary, retired Royal Marine Light Infantry, to have the honorary rank of Lieut.-Col. under the provisions of the Order in Council of the 22nd of February, 1870.

Quartermaster George Pittendrigh, 3rd Foot, to have the honorary rank of Captain on retiring upon full-pay.

The following promotions are consequent on the death, on the 6th inst., of Gen. Sir John Gaspard Le Marchant, K.C.B., G.C.M.G., Colonel of the 11th Foot:—

Lieut.-Gen. George Thomas, Earl of Albemarle, Major half-pay, unattached, to have the rank of General; Lieut.-Gen. George Thomas Colomb, Col. of the 97th Foot, to be Gen.; Major-Gen. Henry Sykes Stephens, Capt. half-pay, unattached, to have the rank of Lieut.-Gen.; Major-Gen. James M'Queen, Major half-pay, unattached, to have the rank of Lieut.-Gen.; Major-Gen. the Right Hon. Francis Plunkett Dunne, Major half-pay, unattached, to have the rank of Lieut.-Gen.; Major-Gen. Rawdon J. P. Vassall, Major half-pay, unattached, to have the rank of Lieut.-Gen.; Major-Gen. James Patoun Sparks, C.B., Col. of the 95th Foot, to be Lieut.-Gen.; Brevet-Col. the Hon. Leicester Smyth, C.B., from Major half-pay, late Rifle Brigade, and Deputy Quartermaster-Gen. in Ireland, to be Major-Gen., dated March 6, 1869, such antedate not to carry back pay prior to February 7, 1874; Major John Inman, half-pay, late 18th Foot, to be Lieut.-Col.; Major Arthur Saltmarsh, 70th Foot, to be Lieut.-Col.; Capt. and Brevet Major William Aldersey James Shortt, 57th Foot, to be Lieut.-Col.; Capt. and Brevet Major Hickman Rose Russell, half-pay, late 57th Foot, to be Lieut.-Col.; Major Edward Thomas Brooke, Royal Engineers, to be Lieut.-Col.; Major Joseph Bonus, Royal Engineers, to be Lieut.-Col.; Capt. William Henry Parker, 17th Foot, to be Major.

KEEP THE HAIR UNBLEMISHED.—"I am like an old hemlock—withered at the top," said a venerable Indian chief, pointing to his thin and bleaching locks. Thousands of men and women in civilised society, much younger than the old Sagamore, are like him, "withered at the top," simply because they have neglected to use the means of preserving and beautifying the hair which science has placed at their disposal. If Mrs. S. A. ALLEN'S WORLD'S HAIR RESTORE be faithfully applied to the fibres and the scalp, it is impossible that the hair should decay, wither, or fall out. This matchless preparation not only keeps the hair alive and the skin of the head in a healthy and clean condition, but actually restores and renews the original youthful colour, multiplies the filaments, and imparts to them a lustre, flexibility, and wavy beauty unattainable by any other mode of treatment. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers. Price 6s. Depot: 114 & 116, Southampton-row, London, W.C.—[Adv.]

Sporting Intelligence.

* * Owing to pressure of Advertisements, a large portion of our matter has unfortunately had to be held over till next week.

It was my intention to have commenced in this number those ratiocinations for which I gained some little credit a few years back when filling the same rôle on other sporting journals, but owing to pressing calls upon my time, preparing for the start, I have not been about sufficiently to gather the necessary information to enable me to place my readers *au courant* in respect to the likely results of the steeple-chases to be run next week at Aylesbury and Rugby. That both Meetings will eclipse any ever held in the Vale or on the grassy slopes of Rugby, the extent of the entries, which will be found elsewhere in full, gives evidence. It was intended to give an engraving of the Aylesbury course; but unfortunately it did not reach in time, and I can now only add a very brief description of the ground to be run over. It is situated about three-quarters of a mile from the town of Aylesbury, in the immediate vicinity of Mentmore, and is marked off over a magnificent hunting country combining ploughed stubble and pasture land. The fences are principally banks and hedges of a fair hunting character, with a rather wide water-jump immediately opposite the Grand Stand. In the four-mile course which embraces the outer circle there are twenty-five fences, besides two flights of hurdles; and the two-miles race will be run on the inner circle, which contains eleven fences, and the two flights of hurdles before named, with a straight run-in of nearly half a mile. In respect to the Rugby course a plan of it will be found elsewhere, and it needs no letter-press description beyond stating that from the brook to the Grand Stand the ground slopes gently upward, and that it is all over grass.

BEACON.

Racing Past and Future.

The records of the past week's racing, and the Calendars for Rugby and Aylesbury, are unavoidably crowded out, owing to pressure of other matter.

Latest London Betting.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE.

7 to 4 on Cambridge (offered, take 2 to 1)

BRISTOL ROYAL STEEPLE-CHASE.

9 to 1 agst Brigantine, 5 yrs, 10st 4lb (offered, take 10 to 1)
100 to 8 — Vintner, aged, 10st 4lb (offered)
100 to 7 — Phrynie, aged, 10st 9lb (taken)
100 to 6 — Clifton, 6 yrs, 10st 8lb (offered)
20 to 1 — Schiedam, aged, 11st 2lb (offered)
20 to 1 — Harvester, aged, 11st 8lb (offered)
25 to 1 — Ryshworth, aged, 12st 7lb (taken and wanted)
6 to 4 agst Ryshworth starting (taken and wanted)

LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.

100 to 8 agst Andred, 4 yrs, 8st 5lb (taken)
13 to 1 — The Curate, 5 yrs, 6st 4lb (taken)
100 to 6 — Newry, 3 yrs, 7st 7lb (taken)
20 to 1 — Lemonade colt, 4 yrs, 6st 4lb (taken)
20 to 1 — Vincent, 3 yrs, 6st 6lb (offered, take 25 to 1)
25 to 1 — Pacha, 4 yrs, 7st 5lb (offered)
33 to 1 — Tomahawk, 3 yrs, 6st 4lb (taken and offered)
100 to 20 — Memory, 4 yrs, 6st 12lb (taken)
100 to 20 — Harlequin's dam colt, 4 yrs, 6st 7lb (taken)
500 to 10 — Sweet Agnes, 3 yrs, 5st 12lb (taken)
50 to 1 — Reflection, 4 yrs, 6st 8lb (offered)
50 to 1 — Chandos, 4 yrs, 8st 7lb (offered)
50 to 1 — Wenlock, 5 yrs, 9st 4lb (offered)
50 to 1 — Maid of Kent, 4 yrs, 6st 12lb (offered)
1000 to 15 — Akbar, 3 yrs, 6st 8lb (taken)
1000 to 15 — Scamp, 3 yrs, 5st 9lb (offered)
1000 to 15 — Young Sydmon, 5 yrs, 7st 2lb (offered)
500 to 40 agst Jennings's lot (offered)
500 to 20 agst Lucy Sutton, Redworth, and Tomahawk combined (taken)
300 to 36 agst Mardi Gras, 1, 2, 3 (taken)
500 to 40 agst Queen's Huntsman, 1, 2, 3 (taken)

LIVERPOOL STEEPLE-CHASE.

100 to 8 agst Furley, 6 yrs, 11st 10lb (taken)
100 to 8 — Ryshworth, aged, 12st 1lb (offered)
20 to 1 — Disturbance, aged, 12st 9lb (taken)
1000 to 40 — Eurotas, 6 yrs, 11st 8lb (offered)
1000 to 30 — Marius, 6 yrs, 11st 4lb (taken and wanted)
1000 to 25 — Footman, aged, 11st (taken)
40 to 1 — Glenshiel, 6 yrs, 10st (taken and offered)
40 to 1 — Columbine, aged, 10st 6lb (taken and offered)
1000 to 20 — Schiedam, aged, 11st (offered)
1000 to 15 — Humble Bee, 6 yrs, 10st 3lb (taken)
200 to 25 agst Disturbance and Furley, coupled (taken and wanted)

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

1000 to 40 agst The Curate, 5 yrs, 6st 7lb (offered)
500 to 15 — Chieftain, 3 yrs, 5st 10lb (taken)
1000 to 30 — Eole II., 6 yrs, 8st 5lb (taken)
2500 to 75 — Peeping Tom, 3 yrs, 6st 2lb (taken)
40 to 1 — Lemnos, 3 yrs, 7st 4lb (taken)
1000 to 25 — Cantinière, 4 yrs, 6st 10lb (taken)
1000 to 25 — Cremorne, 5 yrs, 9st 7lb (taken)

TWO THOUSAND.

100 to 30 agst Ecossais (taken three times and offered)
350 to 50 — Spectator (taken)
12 to 1 — Napoleon III. (taken to £200)
1000 to 500 on Feu d'Amour against Napoleon III., both to run (offered)

CHESTER CUP.

1000 to 50 agst Bertram, 5 yrs, 8st 2lb (taken)
1000 to 50 — Vanderdecken, 5 yrs, 8st 12lb (taken)
1000 to 25 — The Colonel, 4 yrs, 7st 12lb (taken)

DERBY.

4500 to 500 agst Feu d'Amour (taken)
14 to 1 — George Frederick (taken)
1500 to 45 — Novateur (taken)
5000 to 100 — Novateur (offered, take 1000 to 10)
1000 to 15 — Boulet (taken)

RACING AND STEEPLE-CHASE FIXTURES FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH.

Anteuil S.C.	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Windsor Grand Military	20, 21
Boston Steeple-chases	2	Crewkerne	23, 24
Aylesbury S.C. (G. N. Hunt)	3, 4	East Kent Hunt (Waldershare) ..	23
Rugby S.C. (Grand Military)	5, 6	3rd Dragoon Gds. (Norwich) S.C. ..	24
Baschurch Steeple-chases	10	Charleville Steeple-chases	24
East Hendred Down	10	Lincoln	24, 25
Croydon March	10, 11, 12	Liverpool Spring	25, 26, 27
Co. Down	11, 12	Liverpool Hunt Club	24
South Wold Hunt S.C.	12	York Steeple-chases	30
Royal Artillery (Bromley)	13	Swinford Hunt	30
Swindon Steeple-chases	13, 14	7th Dragoon Guards S.C.	31
Ross Steeple-chases	16	Bromley Second Spring	31-1
Canterbury Steeple-chases	16	Pontefract Spring	31-1
Bristol Steeple-chases	17, 18, 19		

A CAT MAY LOOK AT A KING.—We are making arrangements to reproduce in these pages an engraving of Landseer's celebrated picture of Voltigeur, which was exhibited some years ago at the Royal Academy under the above title, but until the exhibition of Sir Edwin Landseer's works, where it is now on view, is finally closed, we are unable to avail ourselves of Lord Zetland's kind permission to have a copy taken of the painting.

COLOURS OF RIDERS.

Mr. G. C. Dicker White, cerise belt, black cap
Capt. Greville Black, and cherry cap
Mr. Henry (altered to) Black, yellow belt, yellow cap

HORSES STRUCK OUT OF THEIR ENGAGEMENTS.

Feb. 7, at 7 p.m. Acrobat, out of the Sutton handicap, Birmingham; Feb. 23, at 3.8 p.m. Ugly Customer, out of Open Hunter's plate, Aylesbury; Feb. 23, at 9 a.m. Yorkshire, out of the Grand National Hunt steeple-chase, Aylesbury; Feb. 23, at 9 a.m. Saucebox, out of the Midland steeple-chase, Kingsbury; Feb. 25, at 3.12 p.m. Birthday, out of Grand National Hunt steeple-chase, Aylesbury; Feb. 26, at 9 a.m. Marvel, out of Windsor Spring handicap; Feb. 26, at 9 a.m. Claverhouse, out of Bristol engagements.

A MEETING of the Grand National Hunt Committee will be held at Messrs. Weatherby's office, 6, Old Burlington Street, on this day, Saturday, February 28th.

VETERINARY certificates, signed by Mr. W. Barrow, Sen., of Newmarket, M.R.C.V.S., of the ages of the following horses, the property of Mr. A. R. Baltazzi, were lodged at this office on the 18th instant:—

Ginn, br f by Giles I., out of Lava, 3 yrs.
Tapio, b c by Ostreger, out of Viola, 3 yrs.
Lady Patroness, b f by Buccaneer—Louise Bonne, 3 yrs.
Hector, bl c by Virgilius, out of Crisis, 2 yrs.
Stupid, ch f by Buccaneer, out of Silly, 2 yrs.
Andromache, br f by Ostreger—Donna del Lago, 2 yrs.
B. f by Ostreger, out of Water Nymph, 2 yrs.

Certificates of the Pedigrees of the above, and also of Eljen, br c by Blair Athol out of East Sheen, 3 yrs., were lodged at this office on the 20th inst.

THE following assumed name has been registered for the year 1874, in accordance with the Newmarket Rules: Mr. McQueen.

THE following assumed name has been registered in accordance with the Grand National Rules: Mr. W. Jonson.

FORFEIT LIST.—The forfeits of the following horses have been paid:—Adieu; Semolina; Queensberry.

STEEPLE CHASE FORFEIT LIST.—The forfeits of the following horses have been paid:—Chippenham, by Lawyer—m. out of Silenus's dam; Drumree (list of 1868).

THE FOLLOWING NAMES HAVE BEEN GIVEN:

Mr. George Dodson's
Ch c (late Grenadier), by Cambuscan,
out of Peri, 4 yrs Anthracite
Mr. H. Hadley's
Ch g by Umpire, dam by Surplice, out
of Investment's dam, 4 yrs Longstop
Mr. Holdaway's
Ch yearling f by Ethus—Temptation Heath of Atholstone
Foals.
Ch c by Ethus out of Temptation ... Duke of Athol
Ch c by Ethus out of Miss Adelaide Lord Athol

LIVERPOOL SPRING MEETING.—Several alterations and improvements have been made at Aintree, since the Autumn Meeting last year. A "Tattersall's Ring" has been constructed, half being taken from the old enclosure, and half from the saddling paddock. In respect to the "Grand National" course, there has been a very marked improvement made. The dangerous ridge and furrow that bordered the running-track, commencing some hundred yards below the thorn fence, and extending a little way beyond the artificial water-jump opposite the Grand Stand, has been levelled, and the course re-turfed, by which extra room is gained, sufficient for another horse at both jumps. As there have been many disputes lately respecting the exact distance of the course the "Grand National" is run over, we have the authority of the Messrs. Topham to state that the correct measurement is 4 miles 850 yards, or 30 yards short of 4½ miles. Major Dixon will start on the first day only, in the room of Mr. McGeorge, who will be occupied on Tuesday at Lincoln.

GRAND NATIONAL HUNT STEEPLE-CHASES.—Extensive preparations are being made in anticipation of this Meeting. At the Great Western Station large numbers of men are making new platforms, sidings, &c. The Great Western specials will leave Paddington at 10.20 and 10.35, arriving at 12 and 12.25; the North Western at 9.30 and 10.10 (first class only), while on Wednesday night a special will leave direct for Rugby. The races will commence at 12.45 each day, and the Grand National Hunt Steeple-chase will be run at 1.30, the hurdle races being set first. Detectives have been engaged from London, Manchester, and Birmingham, and the committee intend to carry out the Meeting very strictly. Mr. Lowndes' hounds will meet near Aylesbury on Monday, and the Biester on Thursday, while the Pytchley meets will also be arranged to suit the Grand Military visitors.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY CANOE CLUB.—The races for this term will take place on Friday, March 6, when the following events will be contested:—One Mile Race Challenge Cup of 50l. Quarter of a Mile Maiden Race; Half-mile Race (Rob Roys); Scratch Fours (this is a quarter-mile race, and open to any member of the University). The entries may be made to the president of the society, C. W. Busk, Esq., on or before Wednesday, March 4.

DEATH OF VOLTIGEUR.—This famous stallion, one of the most popular horses of recent days, was destroyed last Saturday evening, having been kicked on the previous day by a mare belonging to Mr. A. Young. Veterinary assistance was called in, but the case was at once seen to be hopeless, and the animal was shot in his box at Aske paddocks.

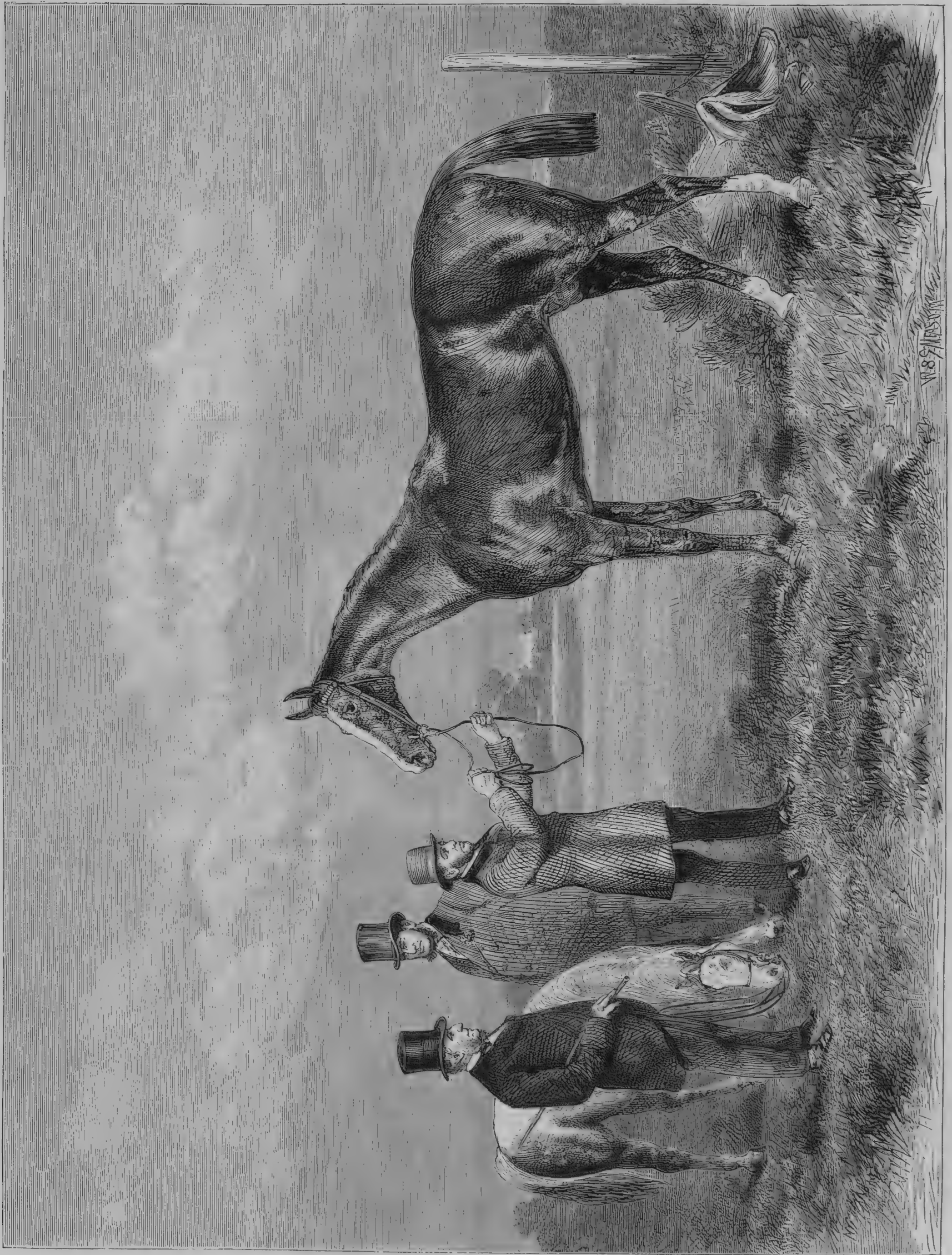
FATAL HUNTING ACCIDENT.—On Monday, while hunting with Lord Middleton's hounds, near Scarborough, Major Fife, of the last-mentioned place, met with an accident which proved fatal. His horse's foot having caught in a rabbit-hole, Major Fife was thrown forward, and becoming faint he fell to the ground. He was conveyed to Ganton-hall, but from the first his recovery was considered hopeless, and on Tuesday morning he died. Among the medical advisers summoned was Sir William Fergusson.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE RACES.—We beg to call the attention of owners of horses to the programme of these races, which will be found among our advertisement columns, the three principal Stakes at which Meeting close and name to Mr. Craggs, Stockton-on-Tees, on Tuesday next, March 3. It will be seen that no less than 300 sovs. has been added to the Northumberland Plate, which ought to command the support of the principal stables; while the Newcastle Handicap and the Stewards' Cup are each valuable stakes, and should receive a fair number of entries.

As will be seen by an advertisement on another page, a new Limited Liability Company has just been formed for the purpose of acquiring and working the well-known business of Sporting and Military Cartridge Manufacturers, which for upwards of 30 years has been so successfully carried on by Messrs. Eley Brothers. A Board of Direction has been organised, including, besides the well-known names of Mr. Thomas Fairbairn and Mr. William Quilter, those of the three Messrs. Eley who are the existing partners of the firm, and who will give to the undertaking the value of their large experience in the business. The capital is fixed at £300,000 in 30,000 shares of £10 each, of which Messrs. Eley receive £6,600 fully paid up shares as part payment of the purchase money of their premises, plant, machinery, patents, contracts and stock-in-trade, which has been agreed on at the sum of £208,000.

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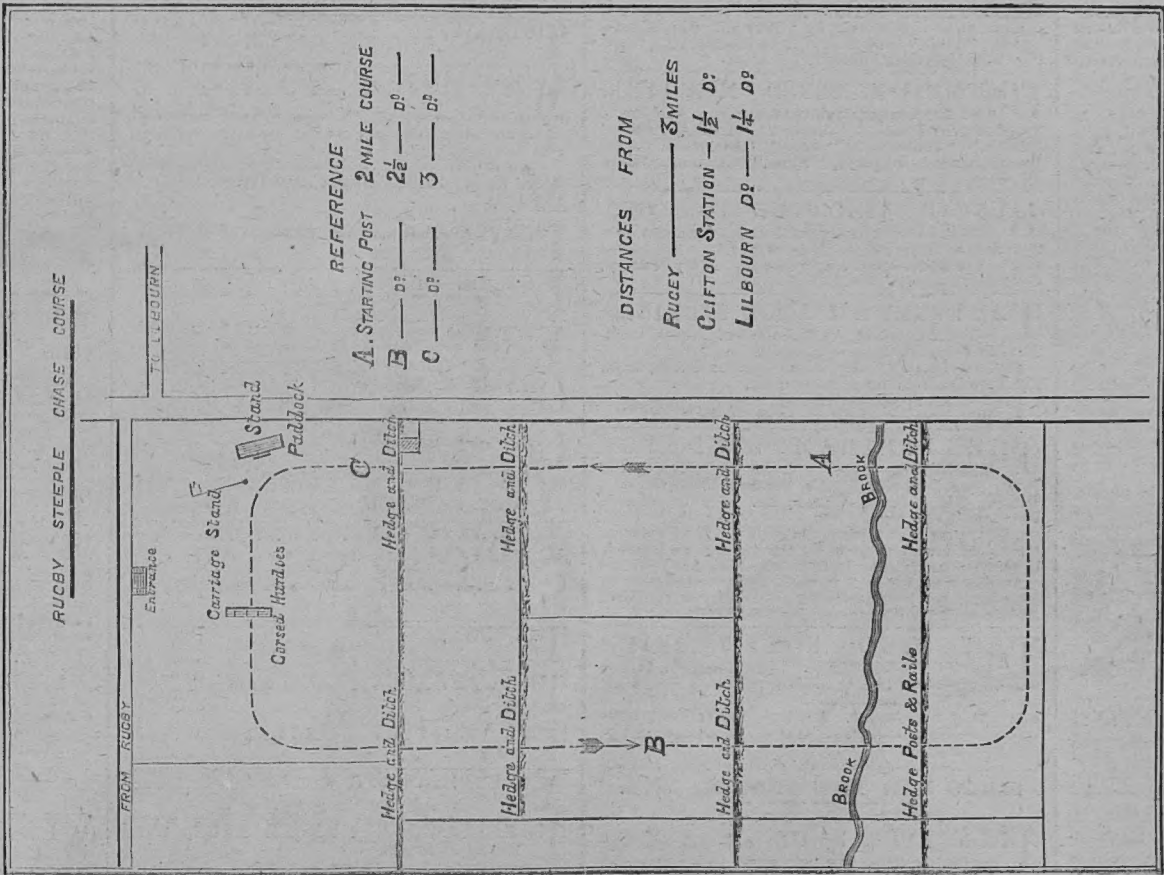
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"PRINCE CHARLIE."
(From a Painting by Harry Hall.)

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PLAN OF RUGBY STEEPLE-CHASE COURSE.

These Races will be run under the Irish National Hunt Steeple-chase Rules.

KILDARE and NATIONAL HUNT RACES.

RACES, to be run at Punchestown on Wednesday and Thursday, April 8 & 9, 1874. Ages from Jan. 1. The G. S. and W. Railway Co. have determined to give a free pass back to all horses which have been conveyed on their line to, and have run at, this Meeting.

STEWARDS FOR KILDARE HUNT RACES.

Marquis of Downshire.	Sir E. Kennedy, Bart.
Marquis of Drogheda.	C. Cramer-Roberts, Esq.
Earl of Clonmell.	F. J. Tynte, Esq.
Rt. Hon. Lord Otho Fitzgerald, M.P.	W. Forbes, Esq.
Lord Cloncurry.	E. A. Mansfield, Esq.
Rt. Hon. W. H. F. Cogan, M.P.	R. Moore, Esq.
	D. Mahony, Esq.
	Capt. C. Warburton.

STEWARDS FOR MILITARY RACES.

Major-Gen. R. Wardlaw, C.B.	Col. Chaplin, 4th Dragoon Guards.
Col. Drury Lowe, 17th Lanc.	Col. Fellows, A.A.-Gen.
Col. Hon. C. W. Thesiger, 6th Dragoons.	Col. Gipps, Scots Fusilier Guards.
Col. Bryne, R.A.	Col. Davis, 20th Regiment.

NATIONAL HUNT STEWARDS.

The Marquis of Waterford.	Capt. J. Montgomery.
The Marquis of Drogheda.	D. Beatty, Esq.
Sir E. Kennedy, Bart.	H. Briscoe, Esq.
Sir E. Kennedy, Bart.	Wm. De S. Filgate, Esq.
Lieut.-Col. Forster.	Wm. Forbes, Esq.
Major McClintock.	G. S. Ware, Esq.

All stakes close at ten o'clock p.m.
Secretary—Mr. ROBERT J. HUNTER, 27, Adelaide-road, Dublin.

Races marked thus [*] are under the Stewards of the National Hunt or Military Races.

FIRST DAY.

The PRINCE OF WALES'S PLATE of 400 sovs., an Open Handicap Steeple-Chase for five-year-olds and upwards; 3½ miles. Should less than twenty horses enter, the winner will receive 250 sovs. out of the plate. Entrance 2 sovs.; to close March 5. Horses which are not struck out on () pay 2 sovs. extra to the fund. A winner of 50 sovs. after the publication of the weights () to carry 6lb., of £100 12lb., of £200 17lb. extra. The second horse will receive 50 sovs. out of the plate.

The DROGHEDA STAKES of 300 sovs., added to an Optional Sweepstakes of 5 sovs. each; once round the old course; about two miles and a quarter; horses that have never started for a flat race, steeple-chase or hurdle race, value £60, in which professionals rode, are allowed 5lb.; a winner of £15 to carry 6lb. extra; of £85, 10lb. extra; of £150, 15lb. extra; four-year-olds 10st. 8lb., five, 11st. 13lb., six and aged, 12st. 6lb.; horses entered subject to being claimed for £100 allowed 5lb.; for £300 10lb.; for £200 15lb. N.B. The value of the stake will not be added to the horse's price. First entry, 2 sovs.; March 19; second entry, 6 sovs.; April 2.

The IRISH GRAND MILITARY STEEPLE-CHASE, value £250,* added to a sweepstakes of 5 sovs. each, p.p., for horses unconditionally the property of officers in the army or navy; four-year-olds 10st. 7lb., five 11st. 8lb., six and aged 12st. 3lb.; a winner of a steeple-chase value 50 sovs. to carry 5lb., twice 50 or 100 sovs. 10lb., of 200 sovs. 14lb. extra; the second horse to receive 20 sovs.; the third to save his stake; half-bred horses allowed 5lb.; about 3 miles. Entrance £2 2s. 6d. To close March 3.

The BISHOPSCOURT PLATE of £250,* for horses that have never started for a flat race, steeple-chase, or hurdle race, value £55, in which professionals rode; distance—3 miles over the Kildare Hunt Cup Course; four-year-olds 10st. 13lb., five 12st. 6lb., six and aged 13st.; a winner of a steeple-chase and steeple-chases 10lb., of collectively value £49, carries 7lb. extra, of £99 14lb. extra, of £200 21lb. extra; a winner of a drag hunt 5lb. extra; horses are only liable to one penalty; horses entered to be sold for £250 allowed 6lb., for £150 14lb.; the value of the stake is not added to the selling price. Riders.—The race to be ridden by members of the National Hunt Club, or by any rider who can produce a certificate, signed by a steward or master of foxhounds (acknowledged by the stewards), that he has never ridden for hire (on the flat or over a country), or ever been in service; riders who have never won a steeple-chase value £50 are allowed 4lb. Horses will carry no penalties for winning regimental races; entrance 2 sovs., or 6 sovs. at second entry. Dates of entry. First, March 19; second, April 2. Distribution of the plate: The winner to receive £200, the second horse £50. In addition to the above-mentioned prizes, a sum of £30 each will be given to the first, second, and third horses, if belonging to a farmer who can produce the following certificate, signed by a master of fox or stag hounds, at first entry: "I consider Mr. — a tenant farmer, and believe the horse

entered in his name for the Bishopscourt Plate to have been his property for the last two months." Such person will be required to pay only 1 sov. entrance, March 26; no second entry.

The KILDARE HUNT CHALLENGE CUP, value 100 guineas, presented by the Right Hon. Lord Otho Fitzgerald, M.P. (To be won three years in succession by the same owner.)

For further particulars of this race, apply at Mr. Wynne's, Royal Hotel, Naas. To close for subscribers, March 5 (1 sov. entrance), at Mr. Wynne's, Royal Hotel, Naas.

SECOND DAY.

The CONYNGHAM CUP, a Handicap Steeple-Chase of £300 in specie; a winner of a handicap steeple-chase value £99 is excluded; about 4 miles; a winner of £50 after the publication of the weights () to carry 7lb., of £100 14lb., of £300 21lb. extra. Entrance 2 sovs. To close March 5. Horses which are not struck out on () pay 2 sovs. extra to the fund. Riders.—Members of the National Hunt Club; riders who have never won a steeple-chase value £50 are allowed 4lb.; the second horse will receive 50 sovs. out of the Plate.

The DOWNSHIRE PLATE of £200,* by subscription of 3 sovs. at first entry, or 6 sovs. at second; a winner of a race value £49, 5lb. extra, of a race value £99, or of a race collectively value £100, 10lb. extra, of a race or races value £200, 15lb. extra, a winner of a drag hunt, 5lb. extra; 3 miles over the Downshire Course. The race to be ridden by gentlemen qualified as for the Bishopscourt Plate; riders who have never won a steeple-chase value £50 are allowed 4lb.; four-year-olds 11st. 7lb., five, 13st., six and aged, 13st. 8lb. To close April 2nd; 3 sovs. entrance, second entry 6 sovs., the evening before the race.

The RAILWAY PLATE of £100, given by the Great Southern and Western Railway Company. An Open Handicap, for four-year-olds and upwards, two miles and a half. A winner of a handicap steeple-chase, value £100, enters subject to be claimed for precisely £350, according to Drogheda Plate Article. Horses for whom forfeit is not declared on the course by half-past one o'clock on the day of the race, pay 3 sovs. to the fund. Weights to be published about nine o'clock the same evening, at Mr. Wynne's Royal Hotel, Naas. To close April 2nd; 1 sov., or 2 sovs. half an hour after the last race the first day.

IRISH GRAND MILITARY HUNTERS' RACE,* a Sweepstakes of 3 sovs. each, p.p., with 150 added, for horses unconditionally the property of officers of the army or navy, which have been regularly and fairly hunted by their owners up to the date of entry with any established pack of hounds; any horse that up to the time of starting has won a steeple-chase, hurdle race, or flat race, value 20 sovs., to be disqualified; any horse that has started for a steeple-chase, hurdle race, or flat race, in which professionals rode (without carrying extra weight), to carry 10lb. extra; four-year-olds, 10st. 3lb., five, 11st. 8lb., six and aged, 12st. 3lb.; Grand Military Course; entrance £1 2s. 6d. To close March 3.

The FARMERS' CHALLENGE CUP, value 50 guineas (presented by the Right Hon. Lord Otho Fitzgerald, M.P., to be won three years in succession by the same owner); £25 added by the Earl of Clonmell, £50 by the fund; the second horse will receive £20; 1 sov. entrance, to go to the third horse; for horses the *bona fide* property of farmers occupying land in the Kildare hunting district, and one month in their possession before the day of running. For further particulars of this race apply at Wynne's Royal Hotel, Naas. To close with Mr. Wynne, Royal Hotel, Naas, April 2.

VETERAN RACE,* a Sweepstakes of 5 sovs. each, 1 sov. forfeit (to go to the fund), if declared on April 2, 100 sovs. added from the Kildare Hunt Race Fund; for horses *bona fide* the property of officers who have retired from, or are on half-pay of, the army and navy, and to be ridden by the same, or by officers on full pay; weight for age; four-year-olds, 10st. 7lb., five, 11st. 7lb., six and aged, 12st. 4lb.; the winner of an open handicap value 100 sovs. excluded; a winner of a race value 50 sovs. 5lb. extra, of one value 100 sovs. 12lb. extra, of one value, or of races collectively, value 200 sovs. 21lb. extra; penalties not accumulative; 3 miles; 1 sov. entrance; if less than seven start only £50 will be added, but forfeits will be given to the winner. (To be run under the Military Stewards.) To close with Mr. Hunter, March 19.

For rules see handbills, and by application to Mr. Hunter.
No entry will be published unless the bookage (2s. 6d.) and the entrance money accompany it.

RULES FOR ADMISSION TO THE NATIONAL HUNT CLUB.

The National Hunt Club of 1873 is dissolved.

1. A candidate must receive the vote (sanctioning his admission) of four members of the Irish National Hunt Steeplechase Committee; nor can any gentleman ride for these races until he receives this qualification.

2. His name must be submitted to Mr. Hunter by a

steward, a member of the Irish National Hunt Steeplechase Committee, a master of hounds in England or Ireland, or by a field officer in the army or militia. His address and occupation will be stated at the time of his nomination. Mr. Hunter will then use his interest to procure the signatures of four members of the Irish National Hunt Steeplechase Committee to the following—viz.: "We admit Mr. —, a member of the National Hunt Club."

Entrance, if a candidate's name be submitted previous to March 12, 5s.; if after that date, 2 sovs.

CORK PARK RACES, SPRING MEETING.

20th and 21st May, 1874.

STEWARDS.

Lord Fermoy.	Earl of Shannon.
General Holdich, C.B.	Sir John Arnott, D.L.
Edmund Burke, Esq., D.L.	Captain Rye, D.L.
Colonel Graves.	Maurice Murray, Esq. D.L.
T. B. Herrick, Esq., J.P.	J. H. Barry, Esq., J.P.
J. J. Murphy, Esq.	D. F. Leahy, Esq., J.P.
John Gubbins, Esq.	James Byrne, Esq., J.P.
W. Barry, Esq., M.D.	T. S. Coppinger, Esq.

Hon. Treasurer . . . J. J. Murphy, Esq.
Judge . . . R. J. Hunter, Esq.
Secretary . . . E. MINHEAR, Esq., 5, Cook Street, Cork.

CLOSING OF PLATES.

Grand Stand Plate - Apr. 16	City Plate - May 14 & 20
Lee Plate - Apr. 16	Queen's Plate - May - 14
Local Hunt Plate - May 14	Park Plate - May 14 & 20
Munster Produce Plate - May 14	Welter Plate - May 14 & 20
Railway Plate - May 14	Farmers' Race May - 14

Entries prior to May 20th, close at No. 5, Cook Street, at 10 p.m. Entries of May 20th, close at the Imperial Hotel on the evening of that day. Entries, forfeits, &c., to be declared in Cork to the Secretary.

The Great S. & W. Railway Company have kindly agreed to take horses back free, at owners' risk. Owners or trainers to obtain certificates from the secretary, that their horse [or horses] ran at the meeting. Such certificate must be produced at the station when horse-boxes are applied for.

FIRST DAY.

The MUNSTER PRODUCE PLATE of 70 Sovs.: One mile and a-half on the flat: for three and four yrs.-old, the produce of mares covered and foaled within the province of Munster, and that have been for at least one month previous to starting, *bona fide* the property of a person having a permanent residence within said province. Wts. three yrs.-old, 8st. 10lb.; four, 10st. 3lb. A winner of a race value 20 sovs. carries 5lbs. extra; value 50 sovs. 12lbs. extra; value or collectively value 100 sovs. excluded. Mares and geldings allowed 3lbs. Horses that have been trained at the Curragh for any period after 15th March to carry 5lbs. extra (the latter penalty accumulative). To close 14th May, at 2 sovs. entrance.

The LEE PLATE of 150 Sovs.: added to a sweepstakes of 6 sovs. each for starters, 2 sovs. forfeit, to go to fund. An open handicap: one mile and a-half on the flat: A winner of 50 sovs. after publication of wts. () to carry 5lbs. extra; of 100 sovs. 9lbs. extra. The owner of the second horse to receive 50 sovs. out of the plate, and the third horse to save his stake. To close 16th April; 1 sov. entrance; with 2 sovs. additional, unless struck out before 5 o'clock, p.m. on the 14th May.

The GRAND STAND PLATE of 500 Sovs.: added to a sweepstakes of 10 sovs. each for starters, 3 sovs. forfeit, to go to fund. An open handicap: Three miles and a quarter over the steeplechase course. The owner of the second horse to receive 100 sovs. and of the third 25 sovs. out of the plate. A winner of a race value 50 sovs. after publication of wts. () to carry 7lbs. extra; and of 100 sovs. 12lbs. extra. To close 16th April, at 2 sovs. entrance; with 3 sovs. additional, unless struck out before 5 o'clock p.m. on May 14th.

The LOCAL HUNT PLATE of 100 Sovs.: Three miles and a quarter over the steeplechase course: For *bona fide* hunters that, previous to the 1st March, have been regularly hunted with an established pack of hounds in the county of Cork; to be ridden by gentlemen who have regularly hunted in Ireland during the past season. Wts.: three yrs.-old, 10st.; four, 11st.; five, 12st.; six and aged, 12st. 7lb. A winner of a flat, hurdle or steeplechase value 20 sovs. excluded. Riders who have never won a steeplechase value 50 sovs. allowed 3lbs.; riders who have never ridden in a steeplechase value 20 sovs. allowed 5lbs. (A *bona fide* Drag Hunt will not be deemed a steeplechase.) To close 14th May, at 3 sovs. entrance.

The RAILWAY PLATE of 70 Sovs.: For horses (*bona fide* maidens) who have never won a flat, hurdle or steeplechase plate or sweepstakes value 20 sovs. Two

miles and a-half over the steeplechase course. Wt. for age, viz.: three yrs.-old, 10st.; four, 11st.; five, 12st.; six and aged, 12st. 7lb. at 1 sov. entrance. To close 14th May, with 2 sovs. additional for starters.

SECOND DAY.

The CITY PLATE of 150 sovs., added to a Sweepstake of 6 sovs. each for starters; 2 sovs. forfeit, to go to fund. A Corinthian Handicap: One Mile and a Half on the Flat. Gentlemen riders, professionals, 6lbs. extra. The lowest weighted horse to carry not less than 9st. 7lbs. The second horse to get 50 sovs. out of the Plate, and the third to save his stake. First entry the 14th May, at 1 sov.; second entry, the evening before the race, at 2 sovs.; 2 sovs. additional in either case for starters.

HER MAJESTY'S PLATE of 100 guineas, for horses trained six months previously in Ireland; Two Miles and a Quarter over the Steeplechase Course. Weights, four-year-old, 12st. 7lb.; five, 13st. 8lb.; six and aged, 14st. 11lb.; four, 9st. 7lb.; five, 10st.; six and aged, 10st. 2lb. To close 14th May, at £1 1s. entrance.

The PARK PLATE of 250 sovs., an open Handicap; Two Miles and a Half over the Steeplechase Course. First entry on 14th May, at 2 sovs.; second entry the evening before the race at 4 sovs., with 2 sovs. in addition, in either case, for starters.

The WELTER PLATE of 150 sovs.; Three Miles and a Quarter over the Steeplechase Course. Weights, four-year-old, 12st. 7lb.; five, 13st. 8lb.; six and aged, 14st. A winner of a race value 50 sovs. to carry 7lbs. extra; value 100 sovs. 12lbs. extra; value 200 sovs. 16lbs. extra. First entry, 14th May, at 3 sovs.; second entry, the evening before the race at 5 sovs. Gentlemen riders, gentlemen who have never won a race value 100 sovs., allowed 5lbs.

The FARMERS' RACE of 60 sovs. Weight for age. 50 sovs. for first, 10 sovs. for the second. About Two and a Half Miles over the Steeplechase Course. For horses that have been, for at least one month previous to starting, *bona fide* the property of working farmers, holding not less than 30 acres of land, in the County of Cork. Horses, the property of gentlemen farmers, excluded. Weights, three-year-old, 10st.; four, 11st.; five, 12st.; six and aged, 12st. 7lb. A winner of 20 sovs. to carry 7lbs. extra; a winner of 40 sovs. excluded, 2 sovs. entrance, to close 14th May.

CONDITIONS.

The established Rules of Racing will be observed in Flat Races. The Irish National Hunt in Steeplechases. The decision of the Stewards present shall be final in all matters. The Plates (the Queen's excepted) will be divided as follows, viz.:—Nine-tenths to first horse, one-tenth to second, except in the Lee, the Grand Stand, City Plates, and Farmers' Race, where other provision is made for second horse. The Stewards reserve power to alter or postpone races: they may also remove defaulters or others from the enclosures even should they have paid for admission. An owner may run any number of horses in the same race. Penalties, allowances, &c., date to time of starting. Four horses to start for each race, or only half the added money will be given; no money for a walk over. The courses are about the distances stated. The order of running will be given on the cards of the day, and owners are cautioned to have their horses at the post at the hours named, as the Stewards are determined to start the races punctually. Owners not truly declaring colours at the time of entry are fined One Sovereign, and should the winner be ridden in colours not declared at entry, a sum of Three Sovereigns will be deducted from the money won. All fines and Entrance Money go to fund and must be paid before starting; Mr. Hunter is instructed to enforce these regulations at the scales, and not to weigh out the rider of any horse whose owner has not complied with them; he is also directed not to weigh out any Jockey who does not appear in proper racing costume. Owners who have restive or unmanageable horses, are requested to send a groom to lead them to the post, to prevent delay in starting. All Entrance Money and Sweepstakes must be paid to the Secretary, before riders are weighed out for the race. Any entry may be rejected unless the entrance money and five shillings bookage accompany it, and owners not observing this rule must blame themselves if their nominations be omitted. No charge for Judge, Scales, Straw, or other deduction made. The Cards of the day will be published by J. M. Noblett, machine printer, 5, Cook Street, and none others will be reliable. An Ordinary at the Imperial Hotel, at which the Stewards will attend.

E. MINHEAR, Sec., 5, Cook Street, Cork.

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